The Journal

OF THE

Jamaica Agricultural Society.

The more people do the more they can do; he who does nothing renders himself incapable of doing anything; while we are executing one work we are preparing ourselves for undertaking another.

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BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

The usual monthly Meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, was held at the Office of the Society, 11 North Parade, Kingston, on Thursday, 17th May, 1917, at 11.40 Present:—His Excellency, Sir Wm. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B. (presiding), Sir John Pringle, K.C.M.G., Hons. P. C. Cork, C.M.G., D. Campbell, S. S. Stedman, R. P. Simmonds; Messrs. R. Craig, A. W. Douet, Jas. Dougall, A. W. Farquharson, A. C. L. Martin, E. W. Muirhead, Adam Roxburgh and Conrad Watson, Rev. W. T. Graham and the Secretary, Jno. Barclay.

Apologies for Absence.—Apologies for absence were submitted from Messrs. H. Q. Levy and Walter Woolliscroft.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The Minutes of the previous meeting having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

The Secretary explained that Sir Francis Watts' memorandum on the Banana Borer Weevil was not published in these minutes, but followed immediately after in the JOURNAL.

Statement of Accounts.—The usual monthly Statement of Accounts was submitted.

Notices of Motions.—Mr. Craig moved that the regular monthly meeting of the Society begin at 11.30 instead of 11.40 as at present. He said that the first few minutes of the meeting were devoted to formalities, and that the few members arriving by the Port Antonio train would lose nothing by not being present at the opening of the meeting. After some discussion, it was agreed to give the suggestion a trial for six months.

Matters arising out of the previous Minutes.—As arising out of the previous minutes, the following matters were considered:—

(*a*) *Letter from Mr. Levy re position on Board.*—The Secretary read a letter from Mr. H. Q. Levy stating that he had accepted an appointment with the United Fruit Co. but still retained his property in Clarendon, and asking the Board's opinion, whether, in view of this fact, it was desirable that he should still serve as a member of the Board.

It was thought that the Board was not competent to deal with the matter as Mr. Levy had been elected by the members and delegates

(*b*) *Prize Holdings Competition*.—Mr. Graham moved the following resolution, of which notice had been given at the last meeting:

"That the prize-holdings competition be resumed and if possible, extended with the view of encouraging the production of food stuffs and of preventing any further dimiuntion of interest in the valuable prize-holding scheme which was bringing about real improvements in the holdings of the people and which was so much appreciated by them."

He referred to the good which this competition had done in the past. It had had the effect of making the people improve not only their holdings, but their general surroundings. They could not improve the people by Acts of Parliament, it was only by these educational means that they could develop the condition of the people. The Prize Holdings Competition was most important and encouraging to the peasants and he thought the Society should re-establish the competition. Hitherto they used to spend £100 annually in prizes in connection with this competition, but he thought if the scheme was re-established they should spend £100 in each parish. He put the matter forward and hoped that it would received the attention of the Board.

Mr. Craig said that he would second the motion, but he desired to know whether any provision had been made for the scheme on the estimates.

The Secretary said that when their grant was reduced by £500, the allocation of £120 for the Prize Holdings Competition was one of those struck out to help meet the deficiency.

The President said that if conditions improved next year, he hoped the £500 which had been struck off the Society's vote since the war would be replaced on the estimates; but until that time he did not feel that anything could be done.

Mr. Simmonds said that the Legislative Council would soon be convened. He observed that when money was required to improve the condition of the people it could not be obtained; but when it was needed to punish them it could be got. He instanced the proposal to establish a prison farm at the west end of the city.

2. *Praedial Larceny*.—Mr. Graham asked the following questions:—

"Seeing that praedial larceny has become widespread, and is an alarming evil, I respectfully ask if the Government, in the interest of the agriculture of the island, will promptly try to lessen this evil by adopting the following methods of dealing with it, viz: To provide on the simplest lines, labour settlements for habitual praedial thieves, this being one one of the unanimous suggestions of this Board; and until such settlements are provided, will the Government adopt drastic measures in dealing with able-bodied praedial thieves, such as publicly catting the worst ones?

"Will the Government enact a law to deal with neglected juveniles on the lines unanimously suggested by this Board for touching the main source of supply of praedial thieves?

"Will the Government cause arrangements to be made by which prisoners who are sent to the short term prisons will be put to hard labour, in prison garb, on public works, such as carrying and breaking stones for the public roads under a guard, say of a corporal and two or more district constables or authorized persons, and not be allowed to have an easy time in the short term prisons?"

The President said he should like to make a few remarks on the questions asked by Mr. Graham. The question was asked whether the Government would enact a Law to deal with Neglected Juveniles, a subject which had already been dealt with by a com-

it that day, was that there should be established in ever, ... industrial school. His reply to that was that he could not possibly see his way to make such proposals to the Legislative Council. One reason for this was that it was too expensive and in the second place it was very doubtful whether it would not result in a good many children being placed in these institutions by mothers and fathers who wanted to shirk their responsibilities and a condition of affairs would arise that would be very unsatisfactory. They had already had one or two of these Industrial Schools which were partly supported by the Government and partly by the Parochial Boards concerned. With regard to these neglected juveniles it was suggested that if the Parochial Boards were to put up a certain amount, the Government could possibly put up the balance and they would be able to deal with waifs and strays. He could not hold out any hope in this direction however.

Mr. Graham said the matter which he should like to emphasize was that these neglected juveniles would be properly looked after if arrangements were made whereby they could be placed out with private individuals. He recalled the fact that there were many men who had made good in the community—men who were upright, industrious and trustworthy—who had got their early training with families with whom they were put in their youths.

Mr. Martin referred to the report of the Special Committee which was made three years ago, and which dealt with the question. Amongst the recommendations was the placing out of these neglected juveniles. It was an important matter, and should be seriously considered by the ruling authorities at an early date.

The Government should find out the real causes for such a large number of cases of praedial larceny and should take effectual measures to deal with the evil. If the Government were to seriously consider the report of the Special Committee it would be a very good thing for the community.

Mr. Roxburgh thought there should be a proper Apprentice Law, as there was in years gone by. At present young men and women were growing up in the country without being taught any trade or calling properly.

Mr. Cork said that for about one hundred years there has been an Apprentice Law. That had, however, long ago become a dead letter. The difficulty that would now be met under that Law was that the young people would not allow themselves to be apprenticed and their parents would not wish it. In Kingston, St. Andrew and other parishes, many parents who could well afford it would not support their children, who became a charge on the taxes of the colony. The question of praedial larceny could only be met by providing occupation for the people in the industries of the Island. It was known that in times of stress and hardships the record of praedial larceny would soar up very high, but would decrease as soon as there was prosperity again. The evil would to a great extent disappear if there was a greater production of sugar, a greater production of bananas, a greater production of cocoa. Idleness was too prevalent. People owned a small plot of land and were satisfied to live on what that could produce. During a week they did not perform two days' work, but the rest of

matter, and he had gone to the extent of obtaining a copy on the subject of a system of dealing with neglected juveniles then practised in Hungary which was of use to the Special Committee.

Mr. Simmonds said a good deal of what Mr. Cork had said was true in some respects, but St. Mary was the largest sufferer at the present time from praedial thieves, and what the hon. gentleman had mentioned did not apply to his parish where there was plenty of work for all. He referred to the meeting which was held at Richmond to deal with praedial larceny, and reiterated the remarks which were made by an old black man at the meeting, viz., that praedial larceny was not so rampant in the days that have gone past, because the parent of a child always took care to ascertain where it got an article from. Unfortunately the principle was not followed in these days.

Mr. Graham said formerly the number of convictions in St. Mary used to be 17 per month, now there were fully 100 convictions per month.

Mr. Stedman said he supported the remarks of Mr. Simmonds. Since the last hurricane it had been most difficult for him to obtain a sufficient number of labourers. He had attended the Court in his Parish within the past two weeks and there were 17 or 19 able-bodied young men who were charged with praedial larceny. It was not because they could not get any work.

There was plenty of work, and no lack of food. Last week they had men coming to the district in which he lived, all the way from Chapelton, to purchase foodstuffs, and large supplies were being sent to Kingston. He had also found out that at the end of last month, when the people had to pay their taxes in moiety, not a penny was drawn from the Savings Bank, and on that day the sum of £100 was lodged. Now there was one matter to which he should like to refer, and probably it would come up at the meeting later on, for it showed a good deal of slackness in certain directions. He had most recently a boy who was charged by the police with committing praedial larceny. He had himself gone to the police station and given information with regard to the catching of this boy. When he thought the boy would have been arrested in respect to this charge of praedial larceny, he found that he had been summoned as they were doing in other cases. The result was that the case would come on before the Court when he was away, and there being no one to prosecute the boy would be let go. It was no wonder that people did not bother to worry over prosecutions for praedial larceny. Under existing conditions it was a waste of time, energy and money.

The President said he thought Mr. Cork had answered the points raised by Mr. Graham in regard to juvenile offenders. The whole thing turned on the question of the Apprenticeship Law. With regard to boarding out the children, some enquiry, if it was thought necessary, might be made in connection with the matter.

Mr. Martin said he saw no objection to the proposal for these children to be boarded out. If there were any difficulties in the way—and he saw none—these could be overcome by the Government having the Law amended. There was no reason why they should allow parents to have their children roaming about at large and becoming vagabonds.

Mr. Farquharson moved the appointment of a committee to go into the matter and formulate some concrete proposal to be put before

the Government. All scruples which stood in the way should be swept away in the interest of the community. Why should the whims and fancies of criminal parents be allowed to interfere with the application of proper remedies?

It was agreed that the matter be taken up by the original committee, to which Messrs. Cork, Farquharson and Roxburgh were added.

On the question of praedial larceny proper, the President said he should like to make a few remarks generally. He had been bombarded with a series of resolutions passed at public meetings, and these resolutions included several proposals. He need hardly say that he could not accept some of these proposals. One of these proposals was for the administering of public flogging to the praedial thief, and the second proposal was that the individual should be put in stocks. It was unnecessary for him to tell them why he could not accept these proposals. What he had done, however, was this: He had circularised the police and the Resident Magistrates, impressing upon them that the question of praedial larceny had now become a national one and not a domestic matter, and therefore it required stringent measures to be taken in the endeavour to deal effectually with the problem. He had sent to the Resident Magistrates a circular in which he asked them to consider very seriously whether they would not deem it advisable to have these men flogged after they had committed more than one offence. As Mr. Stedman had pointed out, there were a number of young men who would not work, and who went about preying on their neighbours' cultivations. He had also sent round a circular to the police officers and sergeant majors asking their opinion as to flogging. He had received several replies that the only way to deal with the praedial thief was to let him know that if he came before the Resident Magistrate and was convicted for a second offence he would be flogged. Further, that mere imprisonment was not an effective deterrent. As they knew, the Resident Magistrate could only flog for a subsequent or second offence, and this being a time of war, and they being urged by the Imperial authorities to make themselves as self-supporting as possible in their food supplies, he thought it could very properly be stated that the measure was urgently required. The Legislative Council would meet shortly, and he proposed to put before them an amendment to the Law which would enable him to put in force here the Praedial Larceny Law which was now in operation in British Guiana. Under that Law, any district in the island might be proclaimed for the administering of whipping after the first offence. This, of course, would be during the period of the war, and probably six months or twelve months thereafter. He might point out that in Trinidad the Legislative Council there had passed the same law that was in operation in British Guiana, viz., flogging after the first offence. The Secretary of State for the Colonies had, however, pointed out that it was only in very serious cases that such flogging should be administered. Now after they had had the law passed here, in reporting on it to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, he would point out that it was a vital matter now for their food supplies, and that the law should be for during the period of the war and might be in operation six or twelve months after the war. That putting in the amendment in the law in Jamaica must not be regarded as a permanent amendment to the law, but

immediately it was found necessary to do without it, the amendment would be crossed out. With regard to the steps taken he would point out that he had caused to be issued on Wednesday an order that all those prisoners who were undergoing sentences in the district lock-up should be at once clothed in prison clothes, and that they should be employed in works of public utility. They should be taken out by the police, and if the regular police were not sufficient then they could be guarded by district constables. The services of these prisoners could be utilised in various ways. They could be employed in clearing the swamps. At Port Antonio, they could be employed in clearing the swamps. At Port Maria they could be utilised to work at the Warner's Pond. At St. Ann's Bay there was work which they could be given, and at Falmouth they could fill up the swamp lands. At Montego Bay he had a proposal to take up a piece of land which could be worked by the prisoners. At Lucea some work would be found for them there; at Black River they would work on the swamps, and at Sav-la-Mar there was work that could be done around the lock-up. In Clarendon he was not certain what class of work could be done, but he had communicated with the Inspector for the Parish on the subject. In Manchester he did not know, but he was sure that work could be found there. With regard to the whipping, he (the President) intended that in cases where whipping was ordered, that it should take place in the lock-up attached to the Court where they were convicted. It was suggested in certain quarters that the whipping should take place in public, but this he thought would be improper, for not only would it be degrading but brutalising, and probably a number of small boys and girls would gather around and see what was taking place. When, however, a man was whipped in the gaol on the spot where he was convicted, it would have a moral effect. Consequently he was suggesting that instead of giving a male defendant a term of imprisonment where the accused was presumed to be under 16, they would give him a whipping (hear, hear.) These were his suggestions. Then in connection with the amendment to the Praedial Larceny Law, there would shortly be a meeting of the Legislative Council when certain amendments to the measure would be made. One of them was in connection with cocoa pods, and it was proposed that these should be included in the law. It was most desirable at the present moment that they should not deal with any matters of a contentious nature, but it was absolutely necessary that they should take immediate steps to deal with present robberies. Then there was another matter which he was endeavouring to take up at the present moment, but there was some difficulty in the way. He would tell them plainly what was the present form the matter had taken. At one time he intended to utilise under the Defence of the Island Law a place on which praedial thieves could work. To carry out this scheme would involve some expenditure, and the question was raised as to whether it was advisable to expend money in this direction in view of a bigger scheme which was under consideration. The Government had under consideration a Law which had practically been approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies with a few amendments, to deal with indeterminate sentences, and it was intended to establish a prison farm. He thought himself that if they were going to establish a prison farm, where they had to deal with praedial thieves, they should commence work on an institution that would be of a

permanent character. One of the sites suggested for the proposed farm was at Maroon Town. There was another site suggested between Kingston and Spanish Town, and there was another site suggested somewhere else. He was anxious to get the opinion of those able to advise him as to the best site of what would finally be a farm in connection with the indeterminate sentence scheme. They would first of all turn out the praedial thieves in the Penitentiary and possibly the St. Catherine District Prison to work under less favourable conditions on the prison farm. Of course, this could not take place in a day. It was not possible that they could select a site and put the men to work right off. With regard to the proposal to establish the farm at Maroon Town, this might be considered unsuitable having regard to the fact that it was so far from the railway. A farm that was a long way from headquarters would not get all the supervision necessary. He (the President) for instance, would not be able to visit it himself. This was the position as it stood. Praedial larceny as they know, had its ups and downs. It was very bad in 1913 and 1914, and then it dropped. During 1915 and 1916 it rose again, and now it had apparently reached the highest he had seen it. Foodstuffs were coming in, and things were improving, and he felt that in a short while the number of praedial thieves would be considerably lower than at present.

Mr. Graham said that many resolutions were being passed and suggestions made by the public on the question, and he thought that the party whose goods were stolen should receive every consideration when the amendment of the Law was being dealt with.

The President stated that he did have a large number of resolutions; he also received several letters a day on the subject. In drawing up the amendment, the Attorney General would have those resolutions before him.

Mr. Simmonds asked that the question of wider powers for authorised persons should be closely considered. At every meeting which he had attended this was asked for.

The President said that in addition to what he had already stated, he would mention that he had issued an order to the Inspector-General of Police that the Vagrancy Law should be vigorously pushed.

(c) *Enlisting Society's Employees.*—The Secretary said that he had written to the Instructors who were desirous of enlisting, forwarding the terms which would be granted to them by the Government should they enlist, and he also pointed out the feeling of the Board in the matter as to leaving it to them to decide just what they would do. Two who were married with families wrote that as they had brothers going forward they would withdraw; one was coming up for examination.

(d) *British Empire Producers Organization.*—The Secretary reported that he had brought up the matter of financial support to this Organization. It had been pointed out that while this Society had decided to pledge its support to the Organization, nothing practical had been done so far.

Mr. Farquharson said that the Organization had been doing quite a lot of valuable work, and that a Society like the Jamaica Agricultural Society, should lend its assistance in every way possible; financial support was a necessity. The Organization had honoured him by appointing him one of its Vice-Presidents, and he felt that it was a compliment to the Society.

It was decided to make a grant of £25 from the Society's fu for the support of the British Empire Producers Organization.

(*e*) *Seed Supplies and Office Equipment.*—It was decided leave this matter over until the next meeting, it being already so lat

(*f*) *Lumber on Crown Lands.*—1. The Secretary said t he had asked Mr. Levy to map out the scheme which he had prom to do at the last Meeting of the Board, but he had just received a le from Mr. Levy saying that he could not now take up the matte he was pressed with work.

(2) A letter was read from Fairy Hill Branch, saying that Branch very much regretted the decision of the Government in matter, and that they were in agreement with the sugges of the Board of Management to sell the rights to fallen lum on the Crown Lands to responsible persons. The Branch also refe to the discouragement that was felt owing to the refusal of the Gov ment to grant a concession for which there is the greatest nee present.

(3) A letter from Crooked River Branch on similar lines also presented.

(*g*) *Woodpeckers.*—C.S.O. letter, No. 6744-7505 dated 1 May, 1917 was read saying that the Director of Agriculture repo that he had requested the Entomologist to make arrangements for enquiry in the parish of St. Mary and Portland, into the habits of woodpecker. Mr. Cousins added that the Government Botanist conducting his investigations in the matter with Castleton as a cen

The following letters from the C.S.O. were dealt with:—

(*a*) *Orange Oil.*—

No. 6608-553. 9th May, 1

"With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the adulter of orange oil, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that it has been sugg to His Excellency that a method of detecting this adulteration might usefull made known amongst the small buyers of orange oil.

2 "On consulting the Director of Agriculture in the matter, that officer s that it would be well to make public the grease-spot test as a simple means of dete cotton seed or other fixed oils added as an adulterant and suggests that the follo notice might be issued:—

"A simple test for the presence of cotton seed and other fixed oils added adulteration to orange oil:—

" 'Allow one or two drops of the suspected orange oil to fall on blotting p and expose it to the sun and air for a few minutes. If fixed oils be present, a g spot will show on the paper. A comparison with genjuine orange oil unde same conditions is of assistance in deciding whether fixed oils be present. Ge orange oil does not produce a grease spot.' "

"This test, I am to point out, will not apply to adulteration with minera such as kerosene.

"I am to suggest that the Jamaica Agricultural Society might issue a n on the lines proposed."

(*b*)

No. 6001-346, dated 30th April, 1917, saying that the Governor had adc the suggestions of the Board of Management and had caused the Clerks of C and the Police to be requested to instruct the buyers of Orange Oil how to pro in order that cases of adulteration should not go without investigation, and if pr without punishment.

(c) Enclosing copy of Minute from Mr. F. N. Isaacs Secre of the Board of Supervision, dated 1st June, 1917, as follows:—

"I desire to state that in travelling through the country I have not obse the preparation of land for planting to the extent that would appear to be nece if the anticipated food shortage is to be met from local production.

"It has been stated in certain localities in spite of denials from land-ow

that suitable land is not available to tenants for planting, and it has been suggested to me by one of such tenants that the Government should take over blocks of say 100 acres of land in such localities at a fair rate of payment and rent them to tenants, the rent being collected through the Collector of Taxes along with their ordinary taxes. This suggestion seemed to me an intelligent one inasmuch as it would settle the question of whether land is available or not and solve the other difficulties connected with land tenure under existing circumstances.

"As Agricultural Branch Societies exist in every parish it might be for them to report such districts as are found to possess inadequate facilities for tenant cultivation and such reports might then be investigated and dealt with by a suitable official."

On enquiry as to the particular districts he was referring to in paragraph 1 Mr. Isaacs replied: "Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth and Trelawny."

The Secretary reported that he had at once communicated with the Agricultural Instructors, and he presented their reports on the subject, which were emphatic that the planting had been greatly increased ranging from 25 per cent. more in the case of yams to 10 times more in corn, and sweet potatoes according to the districts.

The other suggestions were referred to The Staple and Minor Products Committee for enquiry and report.

(*d*) *Lands for Cultivation.*—The following letter from the C.S.O. was read:—

No. 6870-6690. 14th May, 1917.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, C.S.O., No. 164, dated the 12th ultimo, submitting a petition from members of the Nain Branch Agricultural Society and others in the Myersville District of St. Elizabeth, relative to the alleged scarcity of land for cultivation in those districts, and in reply to inform you that the Surveyor General has been authorized to have the patent of John Swaby and the land attached to it known as Content, containing about 300 acres, which was advertised for forfeiture in 1905, surveyed in order to define the forfeited portions which can then be rented for one year at say ten shillings per acre.

2. I am to add that the Surveyor General states that the survey can be carried through in three or four weeks, and suggests that the people of these districts should be told that they will have to pay rent for the land.

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Actg. Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Roxburgh said that he had investigated the matter of the lack of land for cultivation in his parish, and that according to the returns he had received, he judged that there was not the slightest shortage in St. Ann.

Mr. Simmonds said he had offered 350 acres free of rent, and other landowners had been doing the same.

The Secretary said that there were limited districts in which there was a lack of land for small settlers crops. He had a note of these. In most districts, however, plenty of land was available.

The Secretary was instructed to advise the Nain Branch of the terms of the letter from the C.S.O.

(*e*) *Praedial Larceny Law.*—The following letter from the C.S.O. was read:—

No. 5951-4761. 28th April, 1917.

"With reference to your letter C.S.O., 147, dated the 16th ultimo, I am directed by the Governor to acquaint you for the information of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, that under the powers conferred by section 1 of Law 4 of 1909, "A Law in aid of the Laws relating to Praedial Larceny," His Excellency in Privy Council

on the 3rd instant, made an order adding "Paddy (unhusked Rice)" to the articles of Agricultural Produce mentioned in schedule A of the above mentioned Law.

2. The Order will be published in the next issue of the Jamaica Gazette.

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Actg. Colonial Secretary.

(f) Foot and Mouth Disease in U.S.A.—The following letter from the C.S.O. was read:—

No. 6725-6375. 10th May, 1917.

"With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter, C.S.O., No. 91, dated the 16th December, 1916, I am directed to inform you that the United States of America having been officially declared free from Foot and Mouth Disease, the Governor in Privy Council on the 8th instant, revoked the Order made by His Excelency in Privy Council on the 1st December, 1914, prohibiting the importation into Jamaica of cattle, animals, fodder and litter, from the United States of America."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE.
Actg. Colonial Secretary.

Letters re Emigration of Labourers.—A letter was read from the Associated Chamber of Commerce for the British West Indies on the subject of the conservation of labour in the West Indies. This was considered to be a matter rather for the Immigration Department.

The Secretary was directed to forward the letter to the Government.

Authorized Persons. (a) Return of arrests.—The return from the Inspector General for the quarter ending 31st March, 1917, was tabled. It was directed to be published as usual (see page 213)

Applications for Appointment.—The following persons were nominated for appointment as Authorized Persons:—

(1) James Nelson, Union Hill, by Mr. H. J. Crooks, Carron Hall.

(2) Alexander Nelson, Moore Hall, Chas. White, Moore Hall, Alfred Brown, Lower Albany, by Moore Hall Estate.

(3) Saml. Burton, Gray's Inn, by Mr. H. R. Braham, Gray's Inn Estate, Annotto Bay.

Physical Unfitness of Labour.—A letter was read from Mr. L. B. Melville of White Hall, Albany, as follows:—

"I have the honour to call your attention to the rejections as medically unfit of volunteers for the Contingents of the West Indies Regiment at Camp, and in the country at recruiting meetings and otherwise.

It may be known to you that a very large percentage of these rejections are due to simple temporary ailments; a flesh wound on the foot, often turns a man otherwise fit down.

It must be known to you that a great many of the ejections are due to diseases that very little treatment in hospital will relieve, and further, that some of the cases are such that in the interest of humanity the person should have proper medical aid, and in the interest of the community, such person should be kept under control until it is safe to allow him to mix with his fellows.

Further, I am convinced that a great many of the men and lads, that are classed as worthless, and are habitually idle, if treated for intestinal parasites, would take their place among our best labourers. In support of this idea I would ask you, gentlemen, to remember individual members of the Contingents whom you have known before they enlisted, and whom you have seen after they have undergone their hookworm course at Camp.

I suggest that no amount of feeding, discipline or training without the medical aid would have wrought the change you have noticed.

We are up against the proposition of our lives; we have to provide as many fit men as possible for the army; we have to lose from the second best, those who will find work in other countries. I understand that we are having no more indentured East Indians, and if we are to make out with the labour offering we must pay

some attention to their physical condition. We may be too poor to take protective measures against enemies to our economic plants, and we may escape the result, but are we too poor to attend to this matter of proper medical aid for our peasantry? I suggest that this is the bounden duty of the Government and it is our duty to provide the funds necessary.

I think that a special tax of whatever is necessary should be levied in the £10 as is done at present for other purposes, the improvement of the individual will benefit the whole country, so all should pay. If there is any good and sufficient reason against this, then each acre of land should bear a special tax for the purpose.

The 'way' I am sure, gentlemen, you will know more about than I do, if you think it is necessary to approach the Government on the subject. I do not think it is possible for us planters to tackle the proposition on our own account, even if it were practicable and just that we should. It is impossible for the hospitals as they are at present provided to do more than they are doing, consequently I think that something in the nature of the Travelling Dispensary would meet the situation best, but one working from a corner of the Island will not be of any use to any one, perhaps one in each district where labour is needed most to start with, and to be increased later if necessary, could be arranged.

We do not hesitate to provide for our cattle individually, if we do, the loss is ours, if the Government neglects the labourer, the loss is as much theirs as ours, but it is not as conspicuous to those who do not look carefully.

We have abundance of material to work upon and if I am right we will have abundance of labour and a great decrease in praedial larceny. You will no doubt have read of the success that attended the treatment of whole communities in the Southern States of America that has led up to a crusade against the hookworm in all the States and spread to other countries, and I feel confident that you will the best you can for Jamaica if you are convinced of the necessity."

Mr. Farquharson spoke in support of the letter. He said that if this matter was not properly taken in hand by the Government the health of the Island would go from bad to worse. He would like to know from the Government why the proposal of the Rockefeller Institute to bear a part of the cost to eradicate hook-worm disease was not accepted. He had learned from properties in which he was interested, that in a large number of cases labourers failed to do satisfactory work, not because they were unwilling, but because of their incapacity. In Vere they had given a medical man £300 a year to give their labourers special treatment, and had provided their own drugs. Sugar had been fetching a fair price and so they decided to do this themselves; but it was undoubtedly the Government's duty. He would ask that the matter be again brought up at the next meeting with the Government's reply as to the offer of Rockefeller Institute, when he would move a resolution, notice of which he now gave.

Cocoe Rot.—A letter addressed to the Chairman and members of the Board from the Hon. H. Cork was submitted again insisting that cocoe rot was a serious trouble among cocoes, and that more attention should be given to the matter.

The Secretary said that Mr. Cork might be referring to his own immediate district but enquiry of all the Instructors showed that the trouble although well known was not considered by the people themselves destructive to cocoes, nor was it increasing.

War Gifts.—(a) The Secretary presented reports on the 44th, 45th 46th and 47th shipments of War Gifts which, he said, would be published.

(b) A letter from Mr. Aspinall, Secretary of the West India Committee, was read acknowledging receipt of shipments, and reporting the distribution according to instructions. Mr. Aspinall

also referred specially to the gift of sugar from Mr. [illegible] which had been sent to Miss Nosworthy of the R. E. Prisoners of War Committee. The Sweet Potatoes and the Banana Chips had been sent to the Royal Society for experiment and report.

(c) *Acknowledgements.*—Acknowledgements were received of fruit sent to the last Troopship and to Bumper Hall for the Contingent.

(d) The Secretary said he had forwarded with the approval of the Governor a trial shipment of "Head" sugar to the Secretary of the W. I. Committee for experiment and report.

(e) The Secretary reported that he had received a gift of 10 bags sugar (equal 1 ton), from Mr. Hugh Clarke of Sav-la-Mar, being collected by him for the use of prisoners of war in Germany. This was forwarded in the 46th shipment.

(f) *Shipping facilities.*—The Secretary said that he understood that the ships were being withdrawn, but His Excellency said he was not aware of it.

Applications for Affiliation.—Applications for affiliation were submitted from—

(a)	Merrywood	(St. Elizabeth)
(b)	Brompton	,,
(c)	Fairfield	(Manchester)
(d)	Mile Gully	,,
(e)	Broadleaf	,,
(f)	Keith	(St. Ann)
(g)	Hiattsfield	,,
(h)	Wakefield	(Trelawny)
(i)	Epsom	(St. Mary)
(j)	Rock River	,,
(k)	Phillipsborough	(St. Catherine)
(l)	Turks Island	

These had been considered by the Instructors' Committee, and on their recommendation, affiliation was granted.

Instructors' Reports and Itineraries.—Instructors' Reports and Itineraries were submitted, and referred to the Instructors' Committee.

New Members.—The following new members were elected:—

P. Robert Crooks, Lancaster, Duncans P.O.

R. E. Laraque, Port de Paix, Haiti.

George L. Gibb, Platfield, Richmond.

John de la Motte, Mt. Parnassus Estate, St. Georges, Grenada.

David Lang, Dunfermline, Grenada.

F. W. Hudson, "Shortlands," St. Andrews, Grenada.

The Meeting then adjourned till Thursday, 21st June, 1917, at 11.30 a.m.

———:o:———

Parish.	Names of "Authorized Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
Kingston	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
St. Andrew	David Perkins	Isaiah Ellis	Unlawful possession of Yam heads	Discharged
do	Wililam Bonfield	Charles Bennett	" " " Potatoes	do
St. Thomas	Edward J. Whittle	Levi Dawson	Praedial Larceny of Bananas	14 days H.L. Lock-up
Portland	Francis Gray	Theophilus Ashwood	" " " Sugar Canes	30 days H.L. D.P.
do	Eustace Valentine	John Griffiths	Unlawful possession of Cocoes	Discharged
do	Richard Allen	Ann Douglas	" " " Bananas	do
do	Richard Allen	John Bryan	" " " "	Whipped
do	Isaiah Smith	James Smith	" " " Coconuts	3 weeks H.L. Lock-up
do	Moses Ingleton	Adam Mayne	" " " Yams	Discharged
do	Moses Ingleton	Vernal Gardener	" " " "	Whipped
do	Moses Ingleton	Alexander Allen	" " " Coconuts	Discharged
do	Moses Ingleton	Beatrice Marshall	" " " "	do
do	Moses Ingleton	Reuben Anderson	" " " Bananas	do
do	Moses Ingleton	Clifford Anderson	" " " "	do
do	Moses Ingleton	John Anderson	" " " "	do
do	Edward Dawkins	John Fester	" " " Peas	Bound over
do	Edward Dawkins	Lucas Livingston	" " " Cocoes	7 days Lock-up
do	Henry Mitchell	Frederick Gordon	" " " Coconut	Bound over
do	Edward Dawkins	Joseph Sewell	" " " Cocoes	3 weeks H.L. Lock-up
St. Mary	Theodore Gray	Shevron Spencer	" " " Yams	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Wilfred Gray	Ketura Wedderburn	" " " "	Discharged
do	Theodore Gray	Cecelia Harris	" " " Coconuts	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Robert Jackson	Peter Thompson	" " " Coconuts	Discharged
do	Elisha Anderson	William Thompson	" " " "	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	David W. Campbell	David Reid	" " " Bananas	Discharged
do	Josiah Robinson	Jane Williams	" " " Yamheads	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Walter Henry	Joseph Hutchinson	" " " Bananas	3 months H.L. G.P.
do	Walter Henry	Ida Fisher	" " " "	Dismissed
do	Walter Henry	Bridgebassie (coolie)	" " " Grapefruits	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Walter Henry	James Guscott	" " " Coconut	Discharged
do	Nathaniel Brown	Marine (Coolie)	" " " "	7 days H.L. Lock-up

RETURN OF ARRESTS MADE BY "AUTHORIZED PERSONS" UNDER THE PRAEDIAL LARCENY LAW, DURING THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1917.

Parish.	Names of "Authorized Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
St. Mary	Edward Jones	James Allen	Unlawful possession of coconuts	30 days H.L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	Joseph Duncan	,, ,, ,, Bananas	2 months H.L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	Samuel Graham	,, ,, ,, Coconuts	3 months H.L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	Isaiah Johnson	,, ,, ,, Bananas & Coconuts	Dismissed
do	Ernest Martin	William Malcolm	,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	Edward Jones	Sarah Walters	,, ,, ,, Cured cocoa	do
do	Nathaniel Brown	Henry Allen	,, ,, ,, Bananas	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Ernest Martin	William Pinnock	,, ,, ,, Pumpkins	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Ernest Martin	Norman Anson	,, ,, ,, Coconuts	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Edward Jones	Adolphus Barnett	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	Ernest Martin	Begrajh (Coolie)	,, ,, ,, ,,	30 days H.L. D.P.
do	Uriah Jackson	Jeremiah Henry	,, ,, ,, Bananas	Discharged
do	Nathaniel Ferguson	Isadora Campbell	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Arnold Strachan	Nathaniel Wiltshire	,, ,, ,, Coconuts	3 months H.L. D.P.
do	Nathaniel Ferguson	Jethro Johnson	,, ,, ,, ,,	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Robert Hird	Eric Dollas	,, ,, ,, ,,	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	Robert Hird	William Wilson	,, ,, ,, ,,	30 days H. L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	Tuckandeen (coolie)	,, ,, ,, ,,	30 days H.L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	Robert Lewis	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	Nathaniel Brown	George Heron	,, ,, ,, ,,	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	Nathaniel Brown	Samuel Hibbert	,, ,, ,, ,,	3 months H.L. D.P.
do	Arnold Strachan	Aaron Jackson	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
	Ernest Davis	Victoria Johnson	,, ,, ,, ,,	Dismissed
do	David Robinson	Wilmott Cole	,, ,, ,, Bananas	V months H.L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	James Campbell	,, ,, ,, ,,	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Ernest Martin	John Smith	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	David Casey	Isaac Strachan	,, ,, ,, Cocoes	do
do	Nathaniel Brown	Joseph Smith	,, ,, ,, Bananas	30 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Thomas Barnett	Dougal McLaughlin	,, ,, ,, Cocoa pods	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	Joseph Duncan	Cecil Evans	,, ,, ,, ,,	3 months H.L. D. P.
do	William Paisley	Joseph Palmer	,, ,, ,, Yamheads	5 months H.L. D.P.
do	Nathaniel Bryan	David Bailey	,, ,, ,, Dried cocoa	4 months H. L. D. .P.
do	Ernest Rennalls	Augustus Brown	,, ,, ,, Yams	5 months H.L.D.P.

Parish.	Names of "Authorized Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
Mary	Jacob Pownall	Cecil Appleton	Unlawful possession of yams	3 months H.L.D.P.
do	William Paisley	James Stanbury	„ „ „ „	6 months H.L. G.P.
do	Nathan Johnson	Josephine Thomas	„ „ „ Cocoes	Bound over
do	Wilfred Wildman	Alexander Stewart	„ „ „ Yamheads	Dismissed
do	George Skeen	Robert Vidal	„ „ „ Bananas	6 months H.L. G.P.
do	John Luie	Raymond Matthews	„ „ „ Cocoa pods	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Ezra Powell	Louis Ferguson	„ „ „ Coconuts	Bound over
do	Nathan Johnson	Obadiah Campbell	„ „ „ „	6 months H.L. G.P.
do	Robert Pollack	Ebenezer Hemmings	„ „ „ Cocoes	6 months H.L. D.P.
do	William Westcart	Alexander M'Donald	„ „ „ Bananas	Dismissed
do	Alexander Morris	Ernest Davidson	„ „ „ „	3 strokes with tamarind switch
do	Alexander Morris	Frank Simms	„ „ „ „	2 strokes with tamarind switch
do	William Bascoe	Eva Anderson	„ „ „ „	Bound over
do	Alexander Morris	Charles Dennis	„ „ „ Coconuts	Dismissed
do	Samuel Montgomery	Obadiah Simms	„ „ „ Yamheads	6 months H.L. G.P.
do	Daniel Johnson	Leanora Wynter	„ „ „ Cocoa heads	Dismissed
do	Daniel Johnson	Adolphus Lauder	„ „ „ „	Discharged
do	Thomas Bryan	James Morgan	„ „ „ Bananas	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Charles Simms	Louisa Byfield	„ „ „ „	Dismissed
do	Charles Simms	Amos Stewart	„ „ „ „	[illegible] strokes with tamarind switches
do	Alexander Morris	Simon Moncrieffe	„ „ „ Yams and Cocoes	6 months H.L. G.P.
do	William Bascoe	Ezekiel Brown	„ „ „ Bananas	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Daniel Johnson	Charles Williams	„ „ „ Yams	12 months H.L. G.P.
do	James Duncan	Charles Brown	„ „ „ Cocoes	Dismissed
do	Triscillian Tucker	Thomas Hill	„ „ „ Bananas & coconuts	Bound over
do	Thomas McKenzie	Ezekiel Stewart	„ „ „ Bananas	5 months H.L. D.P.
do	Ezra Powell	Norman Cohen	„ „ „ Coconuts	Discharged
do	Thomas Tucker	Murdina Harris	„ „ „ Yamheads	Dismissed
do	James Duncan	Joseph Brown	„ „ „ Cocoes	7 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Thomas Tucker	Ebenezer Hibbert	„ „ „ Yams	30 days H.L. D.P.
do	Thomas Tucker	Rufus Libberth	„ „ „ Bananas	2 strokes with tamarind switches

[RE]TURN OF ARRESTS MADE BY "AUTHORIZED PERSONS" UNDER THE PRAEDIAL LARCENY LAW, DURING THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1917.

Parish.	Names of "Authorized Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
St. Mary	Thomas McKenzie	Joseph Wright	Unlawful possession of Yams	6 months H.L. G.P.
do	Thomas Tucker	Jonathan Hamilton	,, ,, ,, Cocoes	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Thomas McKenzie	Charles Smith	,, ,, ,, Cocoes	5 months H.L. D.P.
do	Michael Sewell	Zephaniah Brown	Unlawful possession of pumpkins	Sent to Reformatory.
do	Thomas Tucker	Casilda Reid	,, ,, ,, ,,	48 hours H.L. G.P.
do	Thomas Tucker	Richard Bryan	,, ,, ,, ,,	3 months H.L. D.P.
do	Thomas McKenzie	Emanuel Adams	,, ,, ,, Bananas	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Thomas McKenzie	Elizabeth Ahderson	,, ,, ,, Cocoeheads	Discharged
do	Ernest Martin	George Thorpe	,, ,, ,, Coconuts	2 months H.L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	Henry Wilson	,, ,, ,, ,,	30 days H.L. D.P.
do	Ernest Martin	Thomas Douce	,, ,, ,, ,,	3 months H.L. D.P.
do	Nathaniel Brown	Charles Biggs	,, ,, ,, Bananas	Imprisoned until rising of the Court
do	Richard Moore	Josiah Atkins	,, ,, ,, Sugar canes	5 months H.L. D.P.
do	Nathan Bryan	Joseph Bartlett	,, ,, ,, Cocoa	4 months H.L. D.P.
St. Ann	Albert Ellis	Ida Williams	Praedial Larceny of Bananas	Discharged
do	Albert Ellis	Philip Jackson	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Joseph James	Rufus Belnavis	Unlawful poMsessions of Yams	30 days H.L. D.P.
Trelawny	Charles Duprey	Joseph Sutherland	,, ,, ,, ,,	7 days H.L. Lock-up
St. James	nil	nil	Nil	Nil
Hanover	Samuel Crooks	Leonard Leslie	Unlawful possession of Coconuts	14 days H.L. Lock-up
do	Benjamin Crooks	Charles Dinham	,, ,, ,, Yams	Discharged
Westmoreland	Hubert Samuels	Samuel Fenton	,, ,, ,, Sugar canes	do
St. Elizabeth	Charles F. Wright	Daniel Brooks	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
Manchester	nil	nil	Nil	Nil
Clarendon	Joseph Taylor	James Cameron	Unlawful possession of Yams	Discharged
do	Daniel Stone	Thomas Chambers	,, ,, ,, Cocoe heads	do
do	Robert Robotham	Gladson Francis	,, ,, ,, Yams	do
do	Henry A. Clarke	Joseph T. Williams	,, ,, ,, Bananas	do
do	Edwin E. Sappleton	William Black	,, ,, ,, ,,	1 month H.L. D.P.
do	Frederick McLymont	Samuel Golding	,, ,, ,, Yams	Delivered to Jamaica

RETURN OF ARRESTS MADE BY "AUTHORIZED PERSONS" UNDER THE PRAEDIAL LARCENY LAW, DURING THE QUARTER ENDED 31st MARCH, 1

Parish.	Names of "Authorised Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
St. Catherine	Gilbert Wood	Ezekiel Smith	Unlawful possession of Yamheads	3 *months* H.L. D.P.
do	Timothy Bonner	Smith West	Praedial Larceny of Yams	1 months H.L. D.P.
do	Bryan Hudson	David Edwards	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	Bryan Hudson	Henry Patterson	,, ,, ,, ,,	2 months H.L. D.P.
do	Samuel Gilzean	Joseph Williams	Unlawful possession of Sweet Potatoes	Discharged
do	Samuel Gilzean	Adeline Service	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	William Wood	Ernest Coombs	Praedial Larceny of Cocoa pods	9 strokes with tamarind swi

Inspector-General's Office,
Kingston, 4th May, 1917.

A. E. KERSHAW, Lt.-Col.,
Inspector-General Police.

AUTHORIZED PERSONS.

It has been suggested that we should publish in this JOURNA the list of names of "Authorized Persons" appointed each montł as so few persons interested see the list published in the GAZETTE.

No. 316. Colonial Secretary"s Office, 30th May, 1917.

The Governor directs the publication for general information, of the followin list of persons authorised under Law 4 of 1909, to arrest and deal with persons su pected of praedial larceny.

By command,

ROBT. JOHNSTONE, Actg. Colonial Secretar

List of persons appointed under Law 4 of 1909—A Law in aid of the Law relating t Praedial Larceny.

Name.	Parish.	District.	Name of Agricultura Society recommendin appointments & dat of appointment.
Richard Bowen	Westmoreland	Drummond Moreland	Savanna-la-Mar, 11th May, '1'
Thomas Davis	,,	Moreland	,, ,,
George Poynado	,,	Moreland Hill	,, ,,
William Roper	St. Mary	Annotto River	Tryall Hill ,,
William Simeon Robotham	Clarendon	Mahoe Hill	Mahoe Hill ,,
David Shaw	St. Mary	Flint River	Broadgate ,,
William Stewart	,,	Rosemount	,, ,,
Charles Smith	,,	Endeavour	Clifton Newstead, 11.5.17
James Parry	,,	Cascade	,, ,,
Thomas Pearson	,,	Cascade	,, ,,
Richard Fink	,,	Labyrinth	,, ,,
George Weatherley	,,	Mile End	,, ,,
Isaiah Thorpe	,,	Three Hills	,, ,,
William Hudson	,,	Hyattsfield	,, ,,
John Smith	St. James	Bowman's Gully	Somerton ,,
Ezekiel Gayle	,,	Whymes Road	,, ,,
Edward Green	,,	Somerton	,, ,,
Aaron Harris	St. Mary	Baxters Mt.	Baxters Mt ,,
Larklin Strachan	,,	Robinson	,, ,,
David Bowen	,,	Hamilton Mount	Oracabessa ,,
Richard Dwyer (Jnr.)	Manchester	Endeavour	Maidstone ,,
John Thomas Miller	Hanover	Cottage	Hanover ,,
Stedman Douglas	St. Catherine	August Town	Glengoffe ,,
Joel Williams	St. Mary	Labyrinth	Labyrinth ,,
Henry Mulgrave	Hanover	Orange Bay	Green Island,,
Herbert Smith	St. James	Belfont	Cambridge ,,
Nathaniel Smith	St. Mary	Harmony Hall	Highgate ,,
Jonathan Bailey	,,	Hamilton Mtn.	Oracabessa ,,
Matthew Clemens	,,	Hamilton Mtn.	,, ,,
Alfred Artrey	,,	Free Hill	,, ,,
Charles Barton	,,	Geddes Mtn.	,, ,,
Nehemiah Green	,,	Spring Head	,, ,,
Obadiah Rose	,,	Jack's River	,, ,,
John Watkis	,,	Jack's River	,, ,,
Joseph Vassal	,,	Fellowship Hall	,, ,,
Malachi Laing	,,	Spring Head	,, ,,
Ingram Hamilton	Portland	Lydart	Nonsuch ,,
Uriah Agustus Brown	,,	Nonsuch	,, ,,
Henry Cruise	St. Mary	Hunts Town	Mt. Angus ,,
Jacob Wray	,,	Hunts Town	,, ,,
Hezekiah White	,,	Athlone	,, ,,
Hubert Green	,,	Hampstead	Hampstead ,,
Michael Shaw	,,	Hampstead	,, ,,
Alexander Walters	St. Catherine	Swamp	Jam. Agricultural Society, 11.5.17
Thomas McFarlane	St. James	Montpelier	,, ,,
Richard Taylor	St. Mary	Richmond Green	Mt. Angus ,,
Benjamin [illegible]			

ORANGE TREES.

It might prove interesting and instructive to some of your readers to examine their Citrus trees when possibly they will see growing there Small Fungi or "Junju." Of course there are many such on most citrus trees, but there is one with a small bright red head which is particularly interesting to citrus growers, and which instead of being a pest on the citrus trees is a hindrance to other growths which are.

If a very ordinary magnifying glass is used it will be noticed that these fungi grow on the top of the scale insects which are the cause of so many troubles among citrus trees. Whersoever this little fungus is seen the citrus growers should rejoice as each little fungus means a dead scale insect, and any operations in the way of cultivation, or any weather conditions which favour the growth of these beautiful and useful little fungi means a decrease in the quantity of Scale Insects. It is remarkable, however, that cleanliness which is always urged upon the farmer as being next to godliness in his operations will prevent the spread and growth of the destructive fungi on citrus trees and yet lead to an increase in the spread and growth of the beneficial red head fungus.

Mr. George Massee, the great authority on fungi of the Royal Gardens, Kew, in his book which every agriculturalist should have in his library, makes two statements which might fit in with this subject. The first is, "The most important of remediable and preventive measures combined is cleanliness"; further on in his preface he says, "Much has been written of late respecting the great advantage derived from certain fungi parasitic on insects." Such statements are perfectly true, myriads of destructive insects are destroyed by such means. This has happened in the past, and must happen in the future."

W. CRADWICK.

Agricultural Instructor,
Highgate P.O.

———:o:———

THE STRIPED CANE WEEVIL.

I was very interested in Sir Francis Watt's review on the Black Weevil Banana borer which is attacking banana fields in Jamaica; I do not know this weevil, but I have had a lot of experience in fighting his cousin, the Striped Cane Weevil and its Grub. The latter does all the harm. Perhaps my experience may help banana men to fight the Black Weevil and its larva which are so nearly alike to my Cane enemy. I first noticed this Striped Weevil Grub in a patch of *B. 208 Cane tops* which I have had planted. These tops did not grow, and on inspecting them, I found they had been riddled by the Striped Weevil Grub. Shortly after this a yellow spiked fungus started to grow all along the cane holes, and on pulling some of these up, I found a dead grub attached to each fungus growth, in fact the fungus was growing out of the body of the dead grub, as a

parasite; this of course killed out all the grubs, and on replantin the patch all the new tops grew well.

On extending the B 208 cultivation in subsequent years thes grubs followed up their attack in other fields and as I had then abou 100 acres planted in B 208 variety, it became serious, as the pes only attack the roots of this variety. They tunneled out the entir underground system of the cane stools in circular patches through out the cane fields. On pulling up the cane stool, which came awa from the ground with the least touch, I found the roots swarmin with cane grubs of the striped cane weevils; I dug out the can stools in these patches and burnt them, limed the land and plante with new cane tops which grew alright, but the grubs went on eatin out other patches in the same circular process and I thought I woul try a top dressing of Nitrate of Soda. While applying this, I droppe some of the grubs into the mixture, and found they shrivelled u and died immediately, although when dropped into the lime I ha been previously applying they had been found squirming away quit lively after 24 hours.

I dressed the fields attacked, with Nitrate of Soda and this proved effective. About November of that year, I first became acquainted with the adults of these grubs, ("The Striped Cane Weevils") as they appeared then in full flight about the cane leaves, and on the wild legumes on the intervals between the cane fields; I then turned my attention to these adults; gangs of children were employed to search for and collect these weevils, and as many as 15,000 to 20,000 were caught and destroyed in a month. I have since on each year that the flight begins from November to December employed children to gather them up; my fields are now clear of the pest. In the April number of the "International Sugar Journal," I see that experiments are in process in Queensland to check the increase of the Cane Weevil and grub, one of which, is to plant cow peas in a row between the cane stools, and as soon as they grow about nine inches high, Paris Green is sprayed on the legumes and they are ploughed in near the cane roots to serve as a poison bait, which the grubs attack and die therefrom. The life cycle of the cane root borer, I learn from ("Insect Pests of Jamaica") is 300 days in the larval stage, and about 30 days in the adult, so it is advisable to go for them as adults, when they are in full flight and above ground.

Sir Francis Watts says the banana root borer, being an allied species, probably has the same habit as the cane root weevil; if so, then the same process for eliminating the former may hold good.

Banana roots are harder to get at than cane roots, however, I had a Bacteriologist here a few years ago looking round for specimens of insects and grubs, and he told me, if a culture could be prepared from the spores of the fungus parasite that killed out my first lot of grubs, it might be used to advantage to innoculate lands attached. *This I know!* the grubs did not like, *Nitrate of Soda* and still less did they seem to like their *Fungus Parasite.*

If this fungus appears again in any of my cane fields, I will end you specimens, but I have not observed it except in isolated ases since the first grand attack on the grub some years ago.

DERMOT O. KELLY LAWSON.

Hampden Estate,
Hampden P.O.,
May 8th. 1917

PEASANT FARMING.

(*Being paper read at a meeting of the Green Island Branch on 20th March 1917, by T. C. Thompson.*)

Gentlemen—Our good President hinted that it would be a good thing if some one would undertake to prepare and read a paper at this meeting, and feeling that it was a sort of indirect request to me, I promised him that I would prepare something to read.

The subject of my paper is "Peasant Farming." I have chosen this subject first because we here are nearly all of the peasant class. We are living in an agricultural country, and we draw our sustenance directly or indirectly from the soil, and I feel quite certain that those present whom we could not classify with the peasantry, are nevertheless, in one way or another dependent on, and are interested in his well-being.

Again I have chosen this subject, because just at this momentous period of the world's history, when the food problem is such a serious one, and when, as individuals, and as a people and community—we may soon be called upon to provide our own foodstuff—it behoves us, to turn all our attention to the proper tilling of the soil, and those who may possess better knowledge should do all in their power to disseminate it for the benefit of the community in general.

By the term farming I would embrace the rearing of stock as well as the tillage of the soil, as the one could not be economically carried on without the other.

The farmer's object is to get from the soil as much as he can, with the least possible expense to himself. He has to call to his aid, all the available agencies within his reach, and he has also to see that nothing is allowed to run waste, and here his stock comes in to his assistance. The poorer peasant who cannot afford a horse or a cow can well afford to buy a small pig for say 4/-. He plants a fine piece of cocoe; without his pig the stalks and leaves would go to waste; the peelings and slops from his kitchen would go to waste. Piggy manufactures these into good pork; at the end of the crop, at the least, he ought to make you the richer; and that is not all that piggy has been doing—he has been adding largely to the manure heap; no farmer can get on without that. The wide awake farmer keeps piggy in a good roomy sty. He plants a plantain sucker at each corner of his sty, while piggy is manufacturing pork he is indirectly aiding in the production of plantains. After 3 months he removes his sty a little further, his four plantains are now well established; he plants four new ones around the sty as before. He will find that by the time piggy has run his course, he will have had a fine plot of plantains, yielding large bunches. Plantains will thrive on almost any soil so long as they are planted around a pig sty.

Plantains are good shade plants for coffee and cocoa and one planted at each plantain root would come up luxuriantly. If the peasantry of this parish could only realise the usefulness of the pig as a farmer's helper, they would be more independent men.

The donkey has been called "the poor man's friend," but I think the pig is more so, as the poor man who could not at once afford to buy a donkey, would soon be able to do so after getting a pig, pro-

To sum up, the pig has netted 20/-, and there is still 4/- to buy another. He has helped to establish a fine plot of plantains and coffee or cocoa besides adding largely to your manure heap. Sties should be cleaned regularly and the manure heaped up.

The cry of the peasantry at this end is, "we can't get lands to work," and yet as one travels around he finds that the great majority own some land of their own, which is allowed to be over-run by weeds and creepers.

Their idea of cultivation is to cut down an acre or so of good land every year, burn and kill all the economic plants, that nature took years and centuries to establish, scratch and skim around the surface; and then throw up the plot as useless, and go in search of other lands for maltreatment. No wonder that lands are not available. Proprietors must awaken some day.

What the planter needs most here is a proper and systematic laying out of his plots for cultivation. Let each kind of crop have its own plot, as much as possible, and avoid overcrowding. What I mean is this—instead of planting yams and cocos in one plot, and then allowing pumpkins to run wild over the plot, it would be more profitable to divide your plot into two, one for yams only and the other for cocoes, and then train your pumpkin along the edge of the field. You would then be able to plant peas and corn as catch crops on each of the plots.

What the farmer has to do at the next planting season is simply to rotate his crops, i.e., planting the yams where the cocoes were and the cocoes where the yams were, with peas and beans as catch crops. The soil in each case would now be in a far better condition to produce better crops, for new plant-food was continually being set free by the air, water and sunlight, from the upturned soil; care should be taken when replanting, to fork up fresh subsoil. This should be placed on one side, the loose upper soil and dead leaves should now be moulded in and the subsoil which was put aside should now be placed on the top, that the air and sunlight may set free the dormant plant food they contain. The same may be applied to cassava and potato. I have seen fields of cassava over-run by potatoes. Cassava requires from 12 to 18 months to mature and potatoes mature in from 4 to 6 months. If both are allowed to grow on the same plot, when gathering the potatoes you are bound to destroy some of the young cassava tubers.

Potatoes should be planted by themselves upon long banks 10 or 12 ft. and 2ft. wide, all your rotten heaps, weeds and creepers should be closely packed in the spaces between these banks, while the crop is maturing these are decaying and adding fresh plant food to the soil; if you are living near the parochial roads avail yourself of all the cleanings for this purpose. Your soil will never be impoverished in this way. Never plant two kinds of potatoes in one bank; they seldom mature together, and in gathering in one crop you are sure to injure a fair proportion of the other.

It is waste of time to dig potatoes planted thus, when they are ripe simply weed off and refork your bank, taking out the tubers, fork in the rotten grass from between the banks; it is better to fork the earth upon the row of rotten weeds and make the old bank the new trench, replant again, using slips from beds of young potatoes. Never plant old slips.

Always plant potatoes when the season permits and you will always be able to keep the pot going, and the yams and cocoes will hold out longer. When reforking an old plot call your manure into requisition. The potato slips weeded off comes in handy for piggy and the rabbits. The best months for planting potatoes in this parish are August, September and October. But as I have hinted, plant whenever the season is favourable.

Manure is indispensable to the farmer, and I have already shown the usefulness of the pig in that respect.

Two other very useful allies of the poor man are the rabbit and the guinea-pig; they cost little or nothing to keep; they feed upon grass and vegetables; when the weather is exceptionally dry canes come in handy especially the tops, all you have to do is simply to split them in four, they are exceptionally fond of the inner shoots. Rabbits and guinea-pigs can be kept together. Their droppings make an excellent manure, well suited for the vegetable plot, which everyt small settler should have around his dwelling.

The guinea-pigs, rabbits and vegetable plot can well be turned over to the children and weaker members of a family. Children should be taught to care animals and these are harmless pets to begin with, and these pets contribute very much to the table directly, by their tender delicate flesh and indirectly by the produce of our garden which depends very much on the rich manure they give.

I am afraid that I have been too lengthy and must close, but before doing so I would say to the *peasant farmer*. Don't depend only on one or two staple products; don't look only on what you may be able to sell—plant everything that may be useful for the home use—what you can produce yourself and don't have to buy counts a lot. Every planter should have just by his kitchen, a chocho arbour and a squash arbour, three or four bamboos with the limbs on, make a good arbour; all the waste water from the kitchen and the sweepings is all the attention they require, and you would be surprised to know what a help they give to your table.

In conclusion, let me say to the peasant farmers in and around Green Island, there are great possibilities before you; you are living in one of the richest parts of the Island, you are highly blessed by nature, with a good and varied soil, and regular and abundant rainfall; bestir yourselves and live up to the age—this wonderful age of progress and improvements—take care of the moments, there is always something to be done on your little farm, employ your spare moments, usefully and profitably, and you will be surprised to find what profit they bring you at the end of each year.

T. C. Thompson.

———:o:———

BUDDING OF COCOA.

It seems rather strange to us that though we are so subject to hurricanes, and have so many cocoa trees blown over and the tops pretty often destroyed or partly destroyed, we have not taken to the budding of cocoa more, especially as so many of our cultivations contain such a mixture of varieties and crosses, so that the proper curing of the beans is interfered with. In every plantation there are always a few trees that are outstanding for the vigour of their growth and their excellent yield of cocoa pods of a good type. All the

trees of poorer varieties could be budded from these. The following is from a leaflet written by T. J. Harris, formerly Agricultural Instructor at Hope Experiment Station, and with the permission of the Director of Agriculture is reproduced. The information given holds good now:

The Cocoa tree having had, in its native habitat, to battle with other shrubs or trees for the possession of the light that is so necessary for proper nutrition, has developed the power of discarding whorl after whorl of primary branches by producing successive "gormandizers," each with its crown of primaries until the outer air is reached, bringing about an enormous lengthening of the stem. Under cultivation these gormandizers are not allowed to grow, the tree being thereby kept down to a convenient height and all its energies directed to the development of the first whorl of primary branches. Now an observant cultivator will notice that these erect gormandizers grow out from the main stem only; though occasionally they will be found on the underside of the primaries near to the main stem. In a sense then we have two kinds of wood on a cocoa tree—the "*horizontal*" produced by the primaries and the "*vertical*" growths from the main stem; the primaries produce only horizontal shoots and the buds on the main stem never fail to grow into vertical shoots, each of which latter is capable of carrying a whorl of primaries at the top; in fact if a tree is badly damaged the best thing that can be done is to cut down the stem and confine future growth to one of these vertical growths or gormandizers.

Among cocoa growers it is well known that if they were able to ship to the manufacturers goods of an even sample better prices might be expected; now since the operation of budding is so simple, there is no reason why each estate should not have all its trees of *one approved variety*. Usually on a plantation there are one or two trees known "personally," we might say, to the overseer as being excellent croppers, bearing regularly large numbers of good sized, thin-shelled pods, each containing 35 to 40 large, well shaped beans of a light mauve colour inside. These trees should have their pods and primaries kept off and manured heavily to induce them to produce as many vertical shoots or "gormandizers" as possible, to be used as bud-wood. The next thing to be done is to cut down to within a foot or so from the ground all undesirable trees that do not pay for the rent and upkeep of the land they occupy—and there are usually many of these—and train up two gormandizers; one for budding upon and the other "to keep up the root" when the other is cut down after the bud has taken, and until the bud is firmly established as the stem of the new tree. As already stated the operation of budding is extremely simple, and it has to be very clumsily done indeed for a bud to fail to grow. It is merely a matter of removing a piece of bark containing a bud, from one of the gormandizers of the good tree and tying it into a place on one of the gormandizers of the inferior tree from which a corresponding piece of bark has been removed. The work may be commenced when the stock and bud-wood are about ¾ of an inch in diameter, though a stout old gormandizer an inch and a half diameter yields excellent buds. The operation of budding involves the application of one or two principles that are not generally known, and a detailed explanation would, therefore, be of use in many instances where mere practical directions would fail.

Most trees have what may be termed a growing season and a resting or dormant season. In the growing season, between the wood and bark, the existence of the cambium layer becomes apparent, this is made up of several layers of thin-walled, rapidly growing and dividing cells.

On the removal of the piece of bark it will be found that a part of the delicate cambium has remained on the wood and part comes away with the bark, and if these two surfaces of thin-walled cells are exposed to dry air for a few minutes they will wither and die, but if immediately replaced and firmly tied, will just as assuredly grow together again; to ensure success, however, the following essentials must be observed:—

That both the stock and the tree yielding the buds be growing rapidly.

That the bud-wood be a little larger in diameter than the stock, to ensure the area on the under side of the actual bud being brought into close contact with the wood when tied in; if the bud-wood be less in diameter than the stock, a hollow space will occur between these parts that should be closely applied; acting with this against success is the thinness of the bark of the younger wood and the consequent impossibility of tying in closely.

That the bud be tied in tightly, especially at the points just below and above the bud proper, but yet not tight enough to crush or bruise the bark.

That the piece of bark containing the bud be removed from the wood without bruising bearing in mind that bending will bruise or crush the cells of a plant.

That the moisture be retained in the bud during the time required to join up by using a tying material that will prevent evaporation; *i.e.*, waxed tape. This is made by dipping 5/8 inch tape into a melted mixture of 1 lb. beeswax, a piece of resin the size of a hen's egg, and half a wine glass of raw linseed oil, scraping off the superfluous wax with a dull knife after cooling.

The bud-wood should be near the stock to ensure no time being lost between the taking off of the bud and its insertion in the stock.

Practical Directions.

Let the piece of bark containing the bud in the centre be three inches long and about ¾ in. wide, and as near as possible, rectangular in shape.

With a sharp pointed knife run two parallel lines, one on each side of the bud, beginning at a point 1½ inches above and continuing down to a point 2½ inches below the bud, drawing the two lines closer together as the knife approaches the lower point, (this allows an inch or so for laying hold of the bud to pull it away from the wood, and being bruised, this must be carefully cut away before the bud is inserted), taking care to cut quite through the bark into the wood; join the two upper points with a short straight cut and, with the edge of the knife sloping upwards join the two lines at a point about a quarter of an inch from the end, *i.e.*, 2¼ inches below the bud, now make a similar cut just below this and prize out the small piece of bark between. Having done this, insert the thin ivory handle of a budding knife, lever up to the end of the piece of bark, slip the handle

under and grip the bark between it and the thumb, and pull steadily in the direction of an angle of 45 with the bud-wood until the bud comes out; now cut off the bruised part that was held between the knife handle and the thumb and place the end lightly on the stock at a point where the diameter of the branch is a little less than that of the bud-wood, run a pencil line along each of the four sides of the bud, remove it again, cut through the bark along the lines, and pick out the bark with the point of the knife, taking care not to injure the delicate cambium below. The piece of bark containing the bud may now be let into the space made for it and firmly tied, using two pieces of tape, one for the part below the actual bud (tying this first) and one for that above, beginning with the middle of the piece of tape at the bud and crossing it behind, finishing bottom and top. In two weeks the union will have been effected and in four to five weeks the shoot from the bud will be from six to eight inches long, and if all the shoots that spring from the stock be carefully kept off, the new plant should bear in a year.

:o:

CURING HIDES.

It has struck me that there is an enormous waste of the hides of dead horsekind in this country; also dead calves. Leather being in such demand now, and fetching such high prices, it is, I consider, most important that some stop should be put to this waste of good hides, and I shall be glad if you can see your way to insert this letter in your JOURNAL.

I have myself sold two horse hides to the Shoe and Leather Co. for nearly a pound each; and have a sample of the leather of one, which seems excellent and looks superior to cattle hide.

I have seen Mr. F. H. Yocum, the Superintendent of the Shoe and Leather Co., who has written me the enclosed letter, which gives some useful information on the matter, to all agriculturists who own horsekind. The Hand Book gives 47,000 horse kind and over 20,000 asses. I calculate that there must be about 70,000 head of horsekind in all at present in the Island of which I estimate about 10,000 die yearly, and the hides are wasted.

B. S. GOSSET.

Hagley Gap.

* * * * *

In compliance with your request for a standard English or American method for curing horse and donkey hides, I beg herewith to give you a conventional method.

The hide is taken from the dead animal with as great care as possible as to scoring with butcher knife. This is rather difficult with the carcass lying on the ground as it would be in this case, but in butchering cows the job is made less difficult by swinging the animal in the air. In this position it is very much easier to take the hide off without scoring (cutting). The importance of minimising the scores, is very great, since three heavy scores throws down a selection. After the hide is thus taken off, the method to pursue in curing is the following:—

A pickle composed of salt and water capable of floating an egg should be made up in a barrel or puncheon to such a volume that it will cover the hide. The hide should be put in this, and the position

24 hours, and should then be spread upon the floor and in .... condition should have from eight to twelve pounds of dry salt scattered upon it. The hide in this condition will stand safely for three months. In folding the hide after salting, the hair should be turned in so that the finished package roped shows only the "flesh" side.

The double purpose of this pickling method is very likely evident to you. In the first place, the pickle draws all the putrefactive matter out of the hide, at the same time it kills the animal heat of the hide. In the second place, in salting with the dry salt, the pickle solution assists in drawing in the cure and hastens the process.

The writer wishes to point out the great economy in saving these hides in Jamaica, as stated by you. These valuable products are entirely wasted to-day in this Island. Not having Government statistics at hand, the writer cannot say how many hides could be thus produced in a year, but at a rough estimate it is safe to say that at least ten thousand horse and donkey hides are thrown away each year which have a value to a tanner of, from 6/- to 10/- each, or in round numbers say, £5,000 sterling.

There are one or more concerns in the Island that would take these hides for the manufacture locally, and with the high cost of all the other leather-making materials, this would be a great assistance in equalizing the supply and demand. I might point out the fact that in the United States or Canada, small matters like this are very closely looked into, and the hides from a great percentage of dead animals are reclaimed with very profitable results.

The writer wishes to thank you for the attention you have given this matter and hopes that you may soon be able to do something with the Government or the people to save this enormous waste.

:o:

CORN WORM.

Indian Corn is growing luzuriantly. Unusual interest centres round the crop because of the large amount planted, and because it will be the herald of most other crops so anxiously awaited, in view of the very dear rate at which imported foodstuffs are being sold. With regard to method of cultivation the preliminary stages are past, and the purpose of this article is to call attention to the ravages of the "corn worm" or caterpillar. In not a single instance have I found a cultivator awake to the extent of the damage being done by these pests, especially when the plant is attacked at an early stage of growth. Sometimes the caterpillar attacks the plant about the stem, cutting it down. It may also eat its way down through the heart into the pith. In both such cases the plants are destroyed. At a more advanced stage the stem of the plant may be eaten into with equally fatal result; but the favourite mode of attack is through the folded young centre leaves. These are sometimes cut back many inches, thus impeding growth,—disfiguring the centre leaf system, and limiting very considerably the capacity for the discharge of their natural functions. I have seen also, the flower spike cut in two with consequent reduction of the supply of pollen. It should be borne in mind also that these pests will follow up the ears of corn, and that they are prolific reproducers of their kind. Yet in the past the only measure adopted by cultivators for the destruction of these destructive "worms" has been the application here and there of a handful of earth

caterpillar at the junction of the leaf and stem then it becomes suffocated. Often, however, it is free to depart when its surroundings are rendered less congenial. More often it secludes itself in the central pipe by which it is carried upwards above the "remedy."

Handpicking is an inexpensive and effective method, and can be applied by every corn grower. No appreciable harm is done the plant by loosing or splitting the leaves sufficiently to reach the "worm."

Quite a few cultivators on the writer's advice have resorted to this remedy. Care should be taken not to pull the heart of the plant upwards.

Few persons appear to observe the very valuable assistance being rendered by lizards in the destruction of these caterpillars—another argument against the indiscreet burning of the land, causing the destruction of hundreds of lizards.

A. P. HANSON.

Stony Hill,
May 24, 1917.

:o:

LICENSING BUTCHERS.

A lot is being said and written about Praedial Larceny and rightly so, as the evil is one which is sapping the life-blood of the country. No sympathy should be shown the thief at his second conviction; the enormity of his offence should be brought home to him through his hide, if he proves impervious to moral suasion.

But there is another evil in our midst which requires combating—the stealing of goats by the itinerant butchers, either directly or as is most usual through accomplices who bring them the animals by night. Around this district (Red Hills) goats have practically been cleaned out by these midnight prowlers, most of them being stolen from old infirm persons, and poor women who through much trouble and hard endeavour, keep a goat or two to help to support them. One extremely sad case occurred a week or so ago, where a poor woman had her only goat stolen on which she depended for milk for her baby. One morning when she woke up to milk her goat, all she found was the poor little kiddies with their muzzles on, baaing for the mother which would never return.

In one week here six goats were stolen. The fellow who was suspected of stealing them was convicted on another charge and sentenced to a short term. A few days after he was out of prison the loss of goats commenced again, and five more were stolen. The morning on which the last three were stolen, a man was seen leading away three goats in the early hours of the morning.

Now how did that fellow dispose of those goats? He dared not be seen with goats by the light of day or he would have been nabbed by the police. The explanation is the mutton butcher who is always ready to receive the spoils, and buy for half price the goat which he could not tempt some poor woman to sell. The remedy is to license every butcher, and compel him to keep a record of goats bought, also compel him to keep the skins for identification if necessary, for say two weeks before disposing of them. A tag to be supplied by the police, giving the date when killed etc., could be attached to each skin.

The tax might be made small, not so much for the purpose of revenue as to identify butchers. A goat is stolen, the District Constable or Policeman looks up the Register of Licensed butchers, goes the rounds and picks out the skin of the missing animal. Having found same he looks at the butcher's record of goats bought. The conviction of the guilty party or parties would in nine cases out of ten follow.

ARTHUR H. ROGERS.

Belvidere, P.O. 23/5/17.

———:o:———

SEED RELIEF DISTRIBUTION.

(Some Results of Seeds Distributed after the Hurricane of August last Year.)

Two of my Branch Societies this month (April) had exhibitions of the Irish Potatoes grown from seed distributed after the hurricane last year.

From the Duan Vale Branch there were 12 exhibits, all of which were real good samples. Mr. R. S. Small won the prize for the best exhibit. A part of his lot was sent to the office for the Secretary, Mr. Barclay, to see.

At Waldensia 8 exhibits were brought out and it was a difficult task to award the prizes as the entire lot were of a high standard Mr. Beckford's was eventually selected as best, with Mr. Whittle next, while Mr. Simpson's was highly commended. Mr. Beckford, the winner, got 64 lbs. of good marketable potatoes from his 8 lbs. of seed. The other two members got 56 and 32 lbs. respectively. Mr. N. A. Livingston, the Secretary of the Waldensia Branch from a plot 17 x 19 (planted as a demonstration) in his School Garden, got 84 lbs. This yield would average 10,698 lbs. per acre, and at the local wholesale price 2d. per lb. would bring £89 13s. to the acre. In each case it was the first time that the prize winners had planted Irish potatoes and when that is taken into account, I think the results are highly satisfactory. The potatoes distributed having been grown successfully by nearly all the members I see the promise of a new, quick crop for the district.

I have seen good results from the cabbage seeds. Messrs. Locke and Rose of Duncans, D. Clough are among those who have been successful. Mr. Cook, a member of Goodwill, got 15 qts. of Red Peas from his quart, apart from what was used for the home before taking in the crop. At a meeting when results were being compared, Mr. Cook offered to give a pint each to two members who had not been so successful. A member of Duan Vale obtained altogether 18 quarts from a quart and pint of Blackeye and Red peas.

Many of the successful members were able to sell seed in their district for the spring planting for which there was a big demand at a good price.

MARTIN RENNIE,

Asst. Agricultural Instructor,
Lower Trelawny and E. St. James,
Falmouth,
30:4:17.

WAKE UP!

The following is from the "Country Gentleman," U.S.A.:—"The *re-eminent peril this country faces to-day is agricultural apathy.*

The macinery of Government can raise an army and recruit nd outfit a navy by definite procedure.

But the machinery of Government is helpless to meet the food-carcity crisis without universal and voluntary co-operation.

The entire nation must wake up to this. It is not a job for groups r special classes. Though primarily it is the farmer's job, he cannot nake good unless he has the united support of all our people behind im.

He must have vastly more than Government aid. He must ave special aid from every nook and cranny of the land. He must ave more man power, more machine power, more fertilizers. He ıust be exempted from service in our armed forces. He must be timulated, prodded, encouraged and aided through every possible orce and agency that can be applied to the task.

Farmers, wake up to the crisis! Bankers, merchants, manu-acturers, professional men of every calling, skilled and unskilled abour, organized or unorganized, rouse yourselves and give a hand!

Apathy invites catastrophe. Lethargy will bring misery and ant, and possible famine to millions of people.

We urge all our readers to wake up themselves and to wake up heir friends and neighbours and business associates.

Our food crisis this year is the gravest in the history of the world. Ve must meet it!"

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Jamaica has already wakened up, but we are still rubbing our yes, not very sure of our position; we need something to brighten s up a bit. Good crops and good prices would do it.

———:o:———

BANANA BORERS.

This beetle is an easily controlled pest, fortunately, but still it oes require controlling. If let alone it can increase until its numbers an riddle the banana roots over a district. And there is never any ıying where such a pest will stop; it may spread into fresh districts; may change its diet, or become hardier and more virile on its own articular present diet.

Clean cultivation is all against its increase; it likes peace and arkness. Well cultivated and vigorous bananas withstand its attacks, d rarely suffer much; neglected bananas become its prey. Once ommon in a place it is hard to get completely rid of it, and it is always ady under favourable conditions to increase and do harm. It kes young bananas best, whether these are plants or ratoons.

It does not of course attack the fruit; it affects the root stock ıt if present in great numbers, it attacks the stem, and it has been und in the centre pipe of the banana stem, and then it affects the uit.

This beetle has caused a good deal of alarm in Queensland and ss to young suckers, but prompt and stringent measures of control ere instituted.

Mr. A. H. Benson, Director of Fruit Culture, paid to Redland Bay to investigate the Banana Beetle Borer trouble, and to discuss with the fruitgrowers of the district some method of combating the pest. The extent of damage done to the banana groves may be estimated by the statement of one grower that during the previous three weeks he had trapped 4,380 beetles. Mr. Benson, on inspecting the traps, found 200 beetles in one of them. The trap consists merely of a banana bulb cut in half. The cut surface lies on the ground and the beetles are attracted to it from the plants in numbers, when they are easily destroyed. The traps or, rather, the cut surface of the half-bulb if freshened now and then. will last for a considerable time. The beetles appear to prefer the cut bulb to the plant itself, as was shown by the fact that when the trap was placed beside young growing plants, the latter were not touched, although numerous beetles were around the trap. At the meeting of fruitgrowers, a motion was made to the effect that the trapping be made compulsory wherever the beetles exist, and it was carried by 35 votes to 6. Mr. Benson stated that the idea that the fruit was affected by the beetles' work was erroneous because unless the beetle actually destroys the plant on which the bunch is growing, there is no sign of deterioration of the fruit.—*Queensland Agricultural Journal.*

———:o:———

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

COCKROACHES.—I have used the following to destroy cockroaches: Boric powder, a little flour and as much sweetened milk to make a thick paste. This is put on bits of paper where the roaches will eat it.

H. H.

Alma, Brown's Town,
21/4/17.

* * * * * *

SWEET POTATO BREAD.—One cupful of mashed potato, one cupful cornmeal one cupful of flour, two teaspoonful. baking powder; mix quickly into a dough with half water and milk; and if too stiff, add more milk, bake in a hot oven.

* * * * * *

Of the several ways in which I have cooked corn meal, the following has been the most popular with my family. Sufficient can be made to last two or three days and it can be used as a batter pudding with meat, eaten with jam or fried with bacon for breakfast. It tastes like Yorkshire pudding, and has the great advantage of not requiring any milk or eggs in it.

Ingredients.—One teacupful of maize *meal*, a pinch of salt, boiling water.

Sprinkle the meal into one pint of boiling water, boil *slowly* for half an hour stirring now and again.

At the end of the time turn into a shallow dish. When cold, cut into squares and fry a golden brown in hot fat as required.

If you are going to use the mash as a pudding after the meat a tablespoonful of sugar should be added to the meal.

* * * * * *

Ingredients.—One breakfastcupful of corn meal, one ounce of margarine, one teaspoonful of baking powder, milk to mix.

Rub the margarine into the flour and baking powder and mix with milk to a stiff paste. Line a tart tin with the pastry and bake for twenty minutes. When cooked, spread with jam or stewed fruit.

(Coconut butter serves the same purpose as margarine).

* * * * * *

WAYS OF USING RICE.—There are few food materials which serve more purposes than rice. It is used as a breakfast cereal, as a thickening for soups, as a vegetable as an ingredient of "made dishes," in which it may appear in combination with meat, fish, eggs, cheese, or vegetables, and sweetened and flavoured in various ways as a dessert.

In and of itself, rice is a mild and pleasant-flavoured cereal, which, when properly cooked, furnishes the body with an abundance of easily digested starch, and this explains why orientals can use it as the "staff of life" instead of bread, and why it may be substituted for wheat or corn or oatmeal as a breakfast cereal. Many persons think it also may be substituted for potatoes as a mild-flavoured vegetable This is a natural supposition, since a portion of cooked rice furnishes the body with about the same quantity of energy-producing starch as a portion of potatoes Potatoes, however, like most vegetables, differ from cereal foods in the character and combination of the mineral matters and acids they contain, which play an important part in nourishing the body and keeping it in good working order. This means that they are not exactly substitutes for one another, and that the common custom of providing fruits and vegetables as we generally do, as a part of meals made up to a considerable extent of foods prepared from cereal grains, is a commendable one. It follows that when rice is used like the potato as the principal starch food of the meal, one should be careful to use fruits and vegetables generously—a custom which is in accord with the traditions of good housekeepers.

Ideas differ as to what is the best way of cooking rice, but probably the most generally accepted standard is to have all the grains distinct. It may be prepared as follows: To a quart of rapidly-boiling water, containing two level teaspoonfuls of salt, a cupful of thoroughly washed rice is added so slowly that the boiling is not stopped. No stirring is permitted, the rice being kept from sticking to the kettle by the rapid-boiling. About 20 minutes' cooking is needed. When the rice is soft, the water is poured off from it and it is covered with a cloth and placed in a warm part of the stove so that its grains will swell. Some cooks before covering the rice with a cloth, turn it into a strainer and pour over it about a quart of hot water to remove the starchy material on the outside of the grain

The water poured off from the cooked rice contains a certain amount of food material, principally starch, and this may be boiled down and used in making soup. It will thicken the soup as would cornstarch or flour. Another way to prevent waste is to cook rice in a double boiler in only so much water as it will absorb while softening. When so cooked about three cupfuls of water and one level teaspoonful of salt are allowed for a cupful of rice. If the rice is not stirred while it is cooking, it will be not unattractive in appearance, although the grains will not be absolutely dry and separate. A more savory dish may be made by substituting meat broth and strained tomato juice for the water.

The food value of boiled rice may be increased by using milk instead of water in preparing it. This has no special advantage in families where milk must be economically used, but where there is a large amount of skim milk which might otherwise be thrown away it is worth considering. If rice is cooked in an uncovered double boiler it can be made to absorb at least six times its volume of skim milk. By this means the protein of the dish is greatly increased. In the following recipe the amount of protein supplied by the skim milk is equal to more than that in a pound of round of beek without bone.

Rice cooked in Skim Milk.—1 cupful of rice, 6 cupfuls of skim milk, 3 teaspoonfuls of salt.

Wash the rice thoroughly. Cook in an uncovered double boiler till all the milk is absorbed, which will take at least an hour. This nutritious dish can be made savory as well by adding to the ingredients one-fourth level teaspoonful of curry powder and a few grains of cayenne. Eaten with butter or gravy, it is very palatable when served with meat or in a similar way. If one prefers, the rice can be made savory by seasoning with a few drops of onion juice, celery salt, and parsley, or a little cayenne pepper, if it is liked, or with grated cheese.

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TO COOK POTATOES.—A well grown properly cooked "Irish" potato is a delicacy. It is, however, a common practice to cook them along with yams or cocoes, but no potato can be properly cooked in this way, it will always be sodden. A boiled potato whether cooked in its skin or peeled, should be floury, in which state it is one of the most digestible of starchy foods; otherwise, in a sodden state, it is very indigestible. As potatoes are now in season and plentiful, we give some hints on the cooking of them:—

Nearly everyone should be able to cook a potato. Most cooks *think* they *do*, but the proof of the cooked potato is in the eating, and, judging by the ofttimes watery and still more often sodden or hard state in which a good tuber is served up, it is evident that far too many have not mastered this section of the noble art.

There is the right way and wrong way, the extravagant way and the economical way; and when cooked well there are many ways in which this article of food, second only to corn, can be got ready for the table to help, if not almost form, our daily meal.

BOILED POTATOES.—The correct way to boil a potato is to wash the tuber in

old water and to cut out all eyes and damaged parts, then to peel as *thinly* as ever t is possible and immediately to put the potato into *boiling* water, adding at the same ime some salt. Keep the water on a steady boil, and in about three-quarters of .n hour the tubers should (unless very large) be cooked. When the tubers are lmost done pour off the water, leaving only just sufficient to cover the bottom of the aucepan; leave the lid half off and keep the saucepan near enough to the fire to team. This dries the potatoes and helps to keep them nice and floury, and preserves heir flavour. Do not dish up until required. If the reader says: "I know this," hen let it be asked how often do people peel a potato, removing a thick, wasteful nd? How often, when peeled, leave it standing for hours in cold water to lose much f its goodness and assist it to become waxy instead of floury after cooking?

BOILING IN THEIR SKINS.—Having washed the tubers as before and cut out ll the eyes and damaged parts, put them, with salt, into the saucepan with just nough water to cover them, and as soon as the water boils add a little more water nd salt from time to time. In about an hour, when they are ready, pour off the ater and let them steam dry; then, till required, wrap them in a thick cloth and place hem in a warm oven till ready to dish; served in their skins. This is the method ost generally adopted in Ireland, and it certainly is economical and preserves the avour better than any other way.

STEAMED POTATOES.—There is no doubt that the cooking of potatoes by steam s the best, and a potato steamer should be obtained for this purpose. The tubers an be peeled or steamed in their skins—the latter is preferable—but in either case lace the potatoes on the drainer and keep sufficient water beneath. When cooked, our off the water and steam till dry. In steaming or boiling when potatoes crack nd are cooked it is foolish to let them continue to cook, for they only get overcharged vith moisture, and much of their goodness is lost in the water.

BAKED POTATOES.—Most of us, from childhood, have tried our hands at baking otatoes either in the ashes of a bonfire or by the hearth, and if they were not well ooked it was generally due to our impatience more than anything else. This fault s the same with the grown-ups.

Select large tubers and wash *very* clean (remember many people like to eat a it of the baked skin), then place them in the oven and keep a moderate and steady eat as far as possible. Turn the tubers now and again. They will be ready in one nd a half to two hours; and, if in doubt, test with a clean, fine, cooking skewer. When ready, serve in dishes, in napkins. A little butter will not only help their lavour, but will certainly add to nutritious value of the vegetable, which, served hus, is in itself a dish.

FRIED POTATOES.—"The world knows how to fry a potato" you will say. My ejoinder is, *does it?* I fear we too often accept chips as dry as a board or sodden vith doubtful fats for what should be one of the most enjoyable methods of serving he potato.

We cannot always get beef dripping, but, whatever is used, see that it is fresh nd, whether you cut your potato in fingers, slices, or chips, try and cut to a uniform hickness, and do not keep adding fresh pieces to the pan until all in it are cooked. f you do, it means some bits are forgotten and get hard, and others are not properly ooked. Keep them all well turned and on the move as much as possible, and let t ever be your effort to serve them as hot as you can.

* * * * * *

PRESERVING MANGOES.—Take green mangoes just full, peel and cut into small lices. Weigh the sliced fruit, and to every 4lbs. of fruit allow 4 lbs. sugar. Add few cloves.

Put the fruit into a preserving pan with water to nearly cover, and let cook ntil mangoes soften, then add sugar in above proportion and boil quickly until it ets—usually about 1 hour.

———:o:———

POULTRY NOTES.

Eggs are always scarce and dear from October to December inclusive; last ear they were selling at 2d. and even 2½d. a piece in Kingston, during that period. This year it looks as if they will be nearly double. The shortage is caused by the igh price of corn and its scarcity; native corn cannot be got at all in most districts. The new main crop of corn will begin to come in in July, and be in full swing in August, then, though we do not expect corn to be cheap because its price should be relative o other foodstuffs, still it should not be too dear to make feeding fowls prohibitive. Thus, late hatchings should be made now by those who can manage this.

A useful practice at all times, but especially recommendable now, is, preserving ggs when they are plentiful for use when they are scarce. Like others, owing to

the high price of feed, we hesitated this year about getting early hatches of chickens and plenty of them, so we do not expect to have so many pullets begin laying in September as we had last year; and as we have plenty of eggs now, we intend to separate the cocks from about a dozen of the hens, and after a week put all the eggs in preservative. Infertile eggs keep better than fertile eggs.

Each year in the Agricultural *Journal* we have given details of several processes for preserving eggs. The best is the use of water glass or silicate of soda. This is usually stocked by the chemists' stores in Kingston, but there is only a very little available this year, and no more can be had. The lime method will thus require to be used as most convenient. We give particulars of several processes.

Boil fresh water and allow to cool in covered vessel until it is only lukewarm. Measure out the quantity of water needed and pour into a receptacle to be used which is best to be an earthenware jar but a kerosine tin will pass, and to it add the silicate of soda in the proportion of one part soda to ten parts of water. Stir until it is mixed thoroughly. Cold water that has been boiled may be used, but in its lukewarm stage it mixes more readily and thoroughly, we think, with the sodium silicate.

Pains must be taken to mix thoroughly.

The amount of waterglass required to cover the eggs when they fill the receptacle must be guessed at the first time. or else determined by filling the receptacle with eggs and pouring plain water on them by measure. The process sometimes followed of filling the receptacle with accumulated eggs and pouring the waterglass over them until covered is not the best way. No eggs that have become over a week old should be used for preserving. It is best to make the fluid and then put the eggs in daily as they are laid, being careful not to put in any that have become soiled or cracked. They should not be washed, however; use only clean ones. A good way to test for cracks is to tap two eggs together lightly, holding each by the thumb and forefinger only—not half smothered in the hand. If uncracked they will give a true ring but if one is cracked it will give a thick or dead sound. A full two inches of waterglass should be over the topmost layer of eggs. Strictly fresh eggs thus treated will keep in good condition for table use for six or eight months, and for culinary purposes only for a longer period. Of course, the receptacle should be closely covered to prevent evaporation of the water from the solution. When left uncovered the evaporation gradually turns the wateglass milky, and finally reduces it to the consistency of a white paste, from which it is both difficult and disagreeable to remove the eggs; while if this paste does not cover or coat the eggs, their preservation is not insured.

A stone jar is the best vessel to use, being easily cleaned and capable of tight-covering. A five-gallon size holds about one hundred and seventy-five eggs—and we believe it is generally recognized as the best size. Although a family may be large, and so consume many more eggs, a number of jars of this size is preferable to one large one for the reason that by dating the small jars as they are packed, the first packed eggs can be first used while if one large jar used the last packed eggs are first used—unless the eggs be relaid when use is begun. When several jars are used it is better to mix the waterglass for each jar separately.

Waterglass is to be recommended over "liming" for preserving on a small scale, as it as more easily prepared and does not roughen the shell. There is no special virtue in either the lime or the silicate of soda; the object of each is simply by sterilizing the water to destroy all life therein, so that the fluid keeps sweet, which would not be the case if there were any kind of germs in it. Repeated tests have demonstrated that when waterglass is carefully made and correctly used, eggs can he kept for an entire year without losing any of those qualities needful for culinary purposes or without developing a distasteful flavour.

There is one drawback to the waterglass method, the shells get thinner and when the preserved egg is placed in boiling or quite hot water frequently the shell bursts. This may be overcome by piercing the shell at one end with a strong needle before placing the egg in water.

Quantity—1lb. waterglass to 1½ gallons water.

II. Lime Water Method.—Take 1 lb. of unslaked lime or double that of slake lime, pour hot water on it enough to cover it, let it lie for two hours, fill up with four gallons of cool water. Stir well and pour through a sieve into an earthenware jar, so as to get the milk of lime. This solution will keep as many eggs as it can cover safely for six months. The air should be excluded by covering the jar with a sack fitting on a lid and sealing the edges, or simply by putting a covering of sweet oil on the top of the water.

III. Or 7lbs. of lime, 1lb. common salt, 4 ozs. cream of tartar. Lime must be

laked for four days before putting in eggs; that is, lime must first be well mixed with ›oiling water; then a little with cold water. Eggs preserved thus will keep at least year. We can highly recommend this recipe.

IV. Or eggs may be preserved by applying with a brush a solution of gum ırabic to the shells, and afterwards packing them in dry charcoal dust.

Formalin Method.—Take an earthenware jar (a large Yabba has served the ›urpose, but a deeper receptacle is safer) buy from the Chemist (Kinkead in Kingston :eeps it) a pint of Formalin, add this to 14 pints of water (boiled water cooled down s best) stir well and having placed half the eggs to be preserved, say 10 dozen in the ar, pour the mixture over them more, eggs can be added up to 20 dozen, which s all this quantity of solution will cover. The jar should then be covered with ome lid, and set in a cool, dark place. The eggs will keep perfectly for at least ix months.

Eggs will always keep better and *without fail*, if they are infertile, that is, if here has been no cock running with the hens. When the hatching season is over he cocks should be taken away.

* * * * * *

MORE FOWLS.—As corn will be plentiful and reasonably moderate in price in ıugust, some late hatchings ought now to be made to help to make up the deficiency ı fowls.

We notice in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture, England, that close calculaions are made as to the comparative cost of the grain and meal feeds necessary for owls with the view of finding whether such foods cannot be more economically tilised to feed other stock, in these days of great scarcity of foodstuffs. The conlusion is that the same grain and meal will give more food if fed to pigs. That is said does not apply to where a small number of fowls is kept which can be fed ›artly on household scraps. Therefore, it will not apply here where small flocks nly of fowls are kept and they have usually a free run and can pick up part of their ›od.

:o:

WAR GIFTS FROM JAMAICA.

FORTY-SIXTH SHIPMENT.

The following War Gifts have been contributed and despatched to the United Kingdom *per the Jamaica Agricultural Society during the fortnight ending Ap* 0th, 1917:—

Donor & Address.	Gift.	Destination.
ımounts collected by Hugh Clarke, Sav-la-Mar	10 bags Sugar (about 1 ton)	Prisoners of War in Ge many.
[. Stead, Gordon Town	1 Cask Honey	Any Hospital.
₹. J. Miller, Christiana	1 bundle Mahogany Crutches (11)	British Red Cross Societ London.
⁄I. E. Muirhead, Mandeville	4 bundles Crutches and Walking-sticks (100 Crutches and 136 Walking-sticks)	do
⁄Irs. Briscoe, Montpelier	1 Case Comfort Pillows, Treasure Bags, etc.	Lady Lawley, Hon. Secty London.
⁄Iile Gully Voluntary Workers' Guild, per Miss G. M. Glanville, Mile Gully	1 Cedar Chest containing Bandages, Pillows, etc.	Miss Urmson, Winche ster War Hospital, Sup ply Depot, Winchest England.
amaica Agricultural Society, Kingston	14 boxes and 3 barrels "Head" Sugar	For experiment.
⁄Irs. W. W. Wynne, Mandeville	8 boxes Grapefruit	Any Hospital.
⁄Irs. C. C. Anderson, Kingston, Jamaica	8 boxes Grapefruit 60 Eggs	Bishop Knoll's Hospita Stoke Bishop, Bristo

The following gifts were contributed and shipped to the United Kingdom pe the Jamaica Agricultural Society, during the fortnight ending May 14th, 1917:—

Donor & Address.	Gift.	Destination.
Rev. J. Chandler, Falmouth	1 bag Sugar, (235 lbs.)	Barham Military Hospital Oatlands Park. Weybridge, Surrey.
Govt. Technical & Continuation School, Kingston, per W. R. Goldsworthy, Kingston.	5 Cases containing 617 Splints, etc.	Officer in charge Army Medical Stores, Woolwich.
Hon. C. C. Anderson, Kingston	1 Case of 120 Eggs	Bishop Knoll's Hospital, Bristol.
Mrs. W. W. Wynne, Mandeville	10 boxes Grapefruit	Any Hospital.

:o:

COMMENTS.

HALY YEARLY GENERAL MEETING.—The Half Yearly General Meeting of this Society will be held on the fourth Thursday of July, the 26th of that month, at 11.40 a.m. We hope there will be a good turnout of delegates from Branch Societies and also direct members of the Society. The triennial election of the Board will take place at this Meeting.

:o:

CHINA OR DWARF BANANAS.—We hope our readers have kept in mind the recommendation to plant at least a patch of this variety of bananas. They are hardier and more productive on poorer soils than the ordinary banana, and when a storm blows all the tall ones down, so that there are none of these bananas to be had for 9 months or a year, the household would still be able to have their boiled green bananas and their ripe bananas from the patch of dwarf bananas. We know places with hundreds of acres of bananas where the household did not know the taste of one for 9 months; on the other hand we know of households which have had their own bananas all along because there was a small field of China bananas available.

:o:

WOODASHES.—The most valuable constituent of woodashes is the potash it contains. In pre-war times potash was one of the chiefest fertilisers. Practically all the world's supplies came from mines in Germany. Potash is now, however, going at a prohibitive price. Wood-ashes form a variable fertiliser, as would naturally be conceived when it is considered that they are a concentrated form of trees and bushes. The composition of wood-ashes varies very much, hard woods being more valuable than soft woods. A plant that is specially rich in potash is the tobacco plant, and the ashes from the tobacco waste are naturally very rich, shewing 26.96 of potash. The ashes 'rom cow dung burned, contain 16.49. Hard-wood ashes, fresh, :ontain about 3% to nearly 5%. Woodashes are also rich in lime, which usually forms about one-third of their weight.

Not an ounce of woodashes should be wasted, yet they are more wasted than they are used here. All crops are the better for an application of wood-ashes, but especially tree crops, like coffee, cocoa, coconuts, citrus trees, etc. Bananas are specially greedy feeders of potash, and benefit from applications of woodashes.

MANURING OF COCONUTS.—The manurial experiments with old coconuts began in Ceylon in 1911. The general result of the manuring as demonstrated with such old coconuts (50 years and over)found that they can be improved in vigour and yield by cultivation and manuring.

The most remunerative return was obtained by digging in or mulching round the palms with sensitive plant (a leguminous crop), and other weeds, and applying a mixture of Basic slag and Kainit in equal parts of 400lbs. per acre. The yield per palm increased generally by this treatment to nearly double in 3 to 4 years.

A feature in the manuring results is the increased power of the palms to retain the young nuts. The gereral appearance of the palms has much improved, the foliage being of a richer dark green and the fronds heavier.

* * * * *

There is nothing easier here than to grow a leguminous crop, through coconuts, cut it when matures and let it lie as a mulch. In the case of old coconuts heavily shading the ground, the mulch would have to be carried to the coconuts, but some kind of mulch is usually easily available here.

:o:

POTATOES.—By this term we mean what are miscalled "Irish" potatoes here. We are glad to say that this has been a wonderfully good season for the growing of this crop. The later seed which arrived in February and March was very high-priced, and most of the growers in Manchester hesitated about planting at all, or planting much. We urged that if they could manage it they should even plant more. We went further, and gave credit to the growers we knew, for the seed supplied, or part credit, so that they would be able to get the seed. The seasons have been wonderfully good, and most of the growers prepared their lands well. The results have been that there have been very fine crops of good potatoes. We hope that the marketing will be well regulated, so that the largest market, Kingston, will not have a glut placed upon it at one time, with the result that even with other high-priced food stuffs the price of potatoes will be lower than they should be, and then when September and October comes there will be few potatoes left, and the prices will be higher than they should be. We know there is always a lack of storage room that it is not easy to keep potatoes, and in the keeping process there is a good deal of loss, except in the case of those who can take care of their stores to keep them over.

:o:

LANDS FOR CULTIVATION.—The majority of small settlers in some districts who own 5 acres or less of land, plant such in permanent crops—coffee, cocoa, coconut and fruit trees—and require other land for the growing of food crops. It is right in such cases to rent land if it can be got. There are districts as in South and Central St. Elizabeth where the climate is not generally suitable for either coffee, cocoa, or coconuts except some trees for home use. In these cases the thrifty settler needs no more land than he has; he manures and mulches and keeps up fertility, and has the satisfaction of having all his crops and

outside of their own lands. Then again parts of some holdings are hardly cultivable being rocky and are only useful for growing wood, or for pasture, and are poor at that as they do not stand dry weather. There are others with fertile land who do not cultivate all of it and yet cry out for more land. Districts and people's natures differ as much in a small place like Jamaica as in a large country. There is no absolute rule to go upon. In our Prize Holdings Competition, however, it was found that the best holdings were not in the most fertile, seasonable districts, but in those parts where nature was not kind, where the soil was poor and often rocky and the district subject to severe drought at times. There most effort was required and had been given to develop a holding.

In an enquiry we have made as to lack of land for cultivation, we find that the districts really in lack are few; yet they occur here and there, and it would not be a difficult matter to solve the proposition of supplying land, and that with benefit to the country.

———:o:———

CABBAGE.—This has been a good season for vegetables. There are occasionally notes in the newspapers of someone being astonished at finding himself with a cabbage in his garden weighing 10 lbs. Really this is as common as cabbage.

In Westmoreland this year almost every garden had cabbages from about 10 to 15 lbs., and in almost every School Garden we visited such large cabbages were common. At Mizpah garden in Manchester, the Instructor bought two cabbages weighing respectively 10 and 14 lbs. which were beautifully tender and mildly flavoured. The teacher of that school writes as follows:—

You will be pleased to know that on the 24th inst. I cut a cabbage weighing 22lbs. 5 ozs. (Twenty-two pounds five ozs.) This grew in the School Garden. It was the "Drumhead" variety, and seeds were supplied by your department.

About two weeks ago I took up a turnip (purple top), weighing 3 lbs. 4 ozs. The person who bought it told me afterwards that the quality was very good.

D. J. LEWIS.

Mizpah.

All the same the best commercial cabbage is a bit smaller, say 4 to 6 lbs. in weight.

———:o:———

BLACK BORER BEETLE.—It is reported to us that along the Wag Water there are now very few plantain suckers where formerly there was an abundance and this is attributed to the work of the Banana Borer Beetle. Plantains appear to be more susceptible than bananas. Anyone who holds that this borer would not be a dangerous pest if let alone should visit some of the settlers fields along the Wag Water up to Mt. James. Formerly when we had orders for plantain suckers we used to get them in abundance in that district but we cannot get them now.

———:o:———

BREADFRUIT.—One of the members at a meeting of the Upper Metcalfe Branch on the 10th inst. reported that after the hurricane of 1916 he made three zinc pans of breadfruit chips, which he subse-

COTTAGE HOLDINGS COMPETITION.—The Instructor for Eastern Portland and Eastern St. Thomas, Mr. L. A. Wates, states in his report for March as follows:—

"I should like also here to call attention to the marked and lasting effect shown by the work of the Cottage Competition in East Portland and should much like to see it continued at an early date. The holdings so improved have in many cases continued to be better holdings and show further improvement."

———:o:———

LANDS FOR CULTIVATION.—A correspondent writes as follows:—"If you know of any of those who say the landowners ought to be compelled to plant large quantities of sweet potatoes, you can make him this offer for me. If he will find the mouey I will find the land, say 50 acres for 6 months, free of rent, and will supervise work and set contracts, etc., without charge; in the event of his making a large profit will accept an honorarium, but am not responsible for any loss."

———:o:———

CUTLASSES, ETC.—The most indispensable instrument in Jamaica is the Cutlass or Machette. There is a great scarcity of these at present and the few that are held in stock at the Hardware shops, are only dealt out under restriction. The scarcity of these implements can be understood, for the works that make these are probably making arms for fighting purposes just now; instead of turning out useful cutlasses they are busy night and day turning out bayonets and swords.

———:o:———

FOOD CROPS.—There are not good reports of food crops from different parts of the world. In the United Kingdom there have been snow and late frosts which have damaged the early crops planted, and kept back the planting of others.

We observe that the reports of the wheat crops in the United States and Canada are not favourable. It behoves us, therefore, to produce as much in Jamaica as possible. We should not be content to supply ourselves entirely with food stuffs, but we should really be able to export food products in addition to bananas, such as sweet potatoes (dried), corn and peas and beans.

———:o:———

WASTE.—When national waste and the necessity for economizing our resources are in every body's mind at present, we give a few of the greatest forms of waste in Jamaica:—

1. The blood, bones and contents of stomach of animals slaughtered for food, for use as stock food or as fertilizers for soil.
2. Animal manure hardly ever saved; road scrapings flung up on the banks on the sides of the road—good manure.
3. Woodashes (containing potash, and scarce as gold at present.)
4. Millions of fruits—mangoes, guavas and Seville oranges, and grapefruit especially, useful for preserves.

Soil, land, earth, which is so valuable, but which is allowed to be washed away by rain into gullies and streams to the sea. Land is expensive to buy. Jamaica is not very big, yet for want of simple system of cross trenches especially on hill sides, each heavy shower washes away the soil.

———:o:———

SEEDS FROM EAST AFRICA.—We have received the following

"Some seeds to try against Jamaica ones. What you should get and I cannot tell how to send you are the sweet potatoes. They grow as big as yams and taste far better than Jamaicans."

We have suggested some ideas as to shipping samples of the sweet potatoes here, safely.

:o:

CORN MILLS.—"The corn mill you supplied me with last year is doing good work. It has been friend of the family since the great scarcity of food. I clean it regularly, oil it, and use it myself."

N. A. R.

Maidstone.

:o:

WOODPECKERS.—I note remark re woodpeckers in the Jamaica Agricultural JOURNAL. This may throw some light on the subject:—

We found a nest in an old cocoa-nut tree, which had fully two quarts of cocoa seeds in it. There were young ones in the nest.

Gibraltar, Annotto Bay,

G. A. PURCELL.

16th May, 1917.

Note: The Entomologist's attention has been called to this—the most direct evidence of the woodpeckers' sinfulness we have had.

EDITOR.

:o:

FOOD.—At a meeting of a Branch Society in St. Mary, when the food supply question was discussed, a lady present said she did not intend to starve, and was very emphatic that if able-bodied people in Jamaica did starve, they deserved to. She stated that she had planted one quart of cowpeas over 2 acres of land which gave her 4 bushels of dried peas, and in addition she had eaten some when the crop was ripening. These two acres were not devoted to peas alone, but had been in bananas which had been cut back after the storm of August last, and the land was also planted through with cocoes and a few yam hills here and there.

:o:

CASSAVA.—The "Agricultural News" says:—"The opinion is expressed in the *Queensland Agricultural Journal* for November, 1916, that the returns of cassava in that country should be as good as those obtained in Jamaica, where 20 tons per acre are easily produced. An illustration is given of a field of cassava in Queensland which affords striking evidence of the truth of the suggestion. Cassava compares more than favourably with maize and potatoes in regard to the yield of starch. From an acre of cassava, 5,000 lb. of starch may be obtained. whereas an ordinary crop of maize may not give more than 1,200 lb. of starch."

Jamaica does not produce and has not produced, unfortunately, on a field scale, anything like 20 tons per acre; we have barely averaged 5 tons. Cassava takes at least 12 months to bear, corn takes 5 months; the time involved in production must be taken into account.

There is nothing more erroneous than to take the results of experimental plots of a chain or even an acre and figure over 100 acres on the same scale.

:o:

WAR GIFTS—CRUTCHES.—We are still shipping regular supplies of crutches for wounded soldiers, and some of those that were sent were really very fine efforts.

Mr. M. E. Muirhead of Marshall's Pen, Mandeville, who is ·out 88 years of age, has led the way in this effort and works at these utches himself. We have not figured out what he has sent between utches and walking sticks, but they must amount to some thousands. ? sets an example to others in this way. The West India Committee rcular for March last had Mr. Muirhead's photograph published th a note about his energy in this direction.

We have also received from Mr. R. J. Miller of Christiana, utches made of mahogany and mahoe. These fine crutches will ·t only help some wounded soldiers but will make handsome memen-es to keep if the soldiers are permitted to keep them when they ave the hospital, or if they are unfortunate enough to require them :er they are well enough to return to their homes.

:o:

BANANAS.—In June bananas began to come in in small quantities the east and north-east and only a few elsewhere. Three buying ımpanies eagerly sought for fruit, and the price was £12 10/- per 0 counts, a good price. In July there will be over double the fruit ailable, with a further good increase in August and September. ıt altogether there will not be a fourth of the supplies ordinarily ailable between August and March of the average year—if even at.

It seems likely that the American market must have bananas, d the United States Government may therefore see that shipping available, and we are the nearest source of supply. In that case ere will be few bananas available to make dry banana chips and nana figs. We know of large orders for these which we hoped maica might be able to supply.

:o:

BREADFRUIT.—Hanover and Westmoreland are the parishes *par cellence* for breadfruit trees and this year these trees are bearing ry heavily. We fear there will be waste of much valuable food. ıe Agricultural Instructors and the Branch Societies are doing their st to impress the prudence of making breadfruit meal from the rplus fruits and storing it to use later on. We thought that there ght be some way of letting Kingston share in the breadfruits, but the sh breadfruit does not carry well enough. Breadfruit meal would l if cheaper than imported flour and cornmeal.

We asked those who have had experience whether roasted bread-uits, which keep well, could be re-cooked for human food with ad-ntage. There seems no way of getting the surplus breadfruits ım the districts of plenty, to Kingston.

We have the following note on the subject:—"I have never been ccessful myself with roasted breadfruits for future use. Last year ıad such a lot, that I had some roasted and put down, but on re-ating I found all the nice flavour gone; then I tried partially roasting d that was worse; where the process of cooking is arrested half-way seems impossible to continue it later on.

In any case roasted breadfruits are the least amenable to re-oking; there is a peculiar quality about them that seems to disappear en once they cool. Roasted Irish potatoes, for instance, are never d over in any way, while boiled potatoes lend themselves to in-merable reappearances. I should imagine the dried uncooked

no personal experience of these either; but still I know so many of the sun-dried fruits, etc., *do* cook most satisfactorily."

(Mrs.) A. E. BRISCOE.

Montpelier.

:o:

CORN.—Although there are large crops coming in, much of th. small settler crop is being used at home from the earliest stages the corn can be eaten. This is right. We hope, too, that every effort will be made to keep over for home use as much as possible.

A corn mill to make cornmeal saves its cost in a few months. Some of our Branch Societies have their own corn mills for the use of members. This is useful co-operation, and we are glad that this Society has at last awakened people to the value of having such corn mills. The trouble this year will probably be that there will not be enough corn mills to satisfy the demand.

We urge that land should be got ready in July for the next planting of corn which usually gives best results if done between the middle of August and the middle of September.

By all means let everyone go through his field and select the best cobs for his own seed. Keep it up.

:o:

PEAS.—Of all the numerous varieties of peas and beans now grown in Jamaica cowpeas are the hardiest and most productive and they are the only legume that will be very abundant this year, in fact are already abundant from the crops planted early in the year or late last year.

There was a large demand for these peas to plant in the months of March and April when they were still scarce and dear. Still crops planted in these months were much larger than what were planted earlier, and the crops of these should come in about July, so these peas should continue plentiful. Then, these are about the only peas that give satisfactory results when planted in May, and we know there have been plenty planted through May and also in June. In fact, planting has gone right on.

Some years ago, cowpeas were hardly known in the markets of the Island, and when they were first brought in would hardly be eaten as people thought they were some kind of cow food. They are, however, the favourite peas in the Kingston market now as they are usually cheaper than the others. Hardy as cowpeas are however, they cannot be grown everywhere all through the year. They are a lowland crop in the winter, and should be not planted high in the hills after August.

The most delicate legumes that are grown are the Kidney Bean, the most common of which is the variety usually called "Red Pea." These beans are however, very susceptible to weather conditions, and unlike the cowpeas, are not a lowland crop in the summer time, but are then grown in the uplands.

The pea commonly called "Gungo" properly Congo or Pigeon Pea, is most useful because it can be grown in drier parts than any other, and withstands droughts. It has the drawback, however, that it only seeds in January and February. It also grows in poorer soils than other peas and beans. Preparation should be made now for the planting of these peas in August, and at the very latest, September as the bushes will not grow large unless they get a good period of growth.

When planted in the Spring they grow into large bushes and bear heavily.

We have sent out packets of a very curious bean called the Asparagus bean. It is a climber, and has long pods from two to two and a half feet long, and when these pods are taken in the early stage, they make a most delicate snap bean. Unfortunately, most people have eaaten them in that stage, so that we have hardly been able to secure fresh supplies of seed. They grow quickly, too, and can be used within 3 or 4 months.

Another excellent bean common in Manchester, but not largely grown in other parts, is the Old Homestead. It is a pole bean, and bears early and truely; it has long wrinkled pods hanging in great clusters.

A hardy bean useful to plant over abandoned ground over the trees and bushes is the Bonavista. We have taken quarts of these beans from a vine we found running over a low bushy tree. We have been sent some different varieties of beans from East Africa by General Lord Kithener with the request to plant each kind to test them. As however, they are not named it will not be easy to describe them.

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POTATOES.—The following refers to Irish potatoes:—I give you a few results from planting Irish potatoes. Mr. D. S. Green, near Mandeville, planted one barrel or 160 lbs., and he has reaped 2,150 lbs. from same. These would have done better if they had been allowed to remain in the ground a few weeks more. This is Mr. Green's first attempt and with his land better prepared he would no doubt get a better return next year.

Of the barrel of seed given to the Patrick Town Branch as hurricane relief some good results have been obtained. Mr. Angell got 96 lbs. of very good potatoes from 7 lbs. Joseph Griffith of Devon got a splendid return from 2 barrels planted at Devon; I have not been able to get the exact figures from him, but approximately he planted 320 to 340 lbs. and reaped 5,000 to 5,200 lbs. Griffiths planted in February.

THOMAS POWELL,

Agricultural Instructor,
Mile Gully.

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TOBACCO SEED.—The usual way of saving tobacco seed here, is simply to go through the field after the leaves have all been taken and the plants have run to seed, and take the seed right through without any sort of selection. Now, the plants cannot make first class seed when they are deprived of leaves regularly. This process (of saving seed) has gone on year after year until there is very little vitality left in most of the seeds saved; it requires quarts of seeds to establish a small nursery; not one in a hundred have vitality enough to grow, and of those that grow there is not vitality enough to stand any little set-back. We have written on this subject before, in the hope that some planters would make effort to grow plots specially for seed. The Jamaica Tobaco Co., practised field seed selection, i.e., selecting the best plants in the field and marking these to be left to bear seed. We have never heard of any of the smaller planters doing this as a regular practice. It is difficult to control seed selection in the field so that we have recommended special plots to be grown

cept for seed the others being cut out altogether. A few years of election in this way would make a wonderful difference in the quality of the seed. One planter who has done this in a very small way, eports that the seed capsules from these plants are over twice the ize of those in the field, the seeds are larger and will be full of vitality. There should be a process of careful seed selection going on all the time. t pays.

BRANCH NOTES.

CROOKED RIVER (Clarendon).—This Branch held its usual monthly meeting the schoolroom on the 1st May. The minutes of the previous meeting were ad and confirmed. Correspondence was read and dealt with. Two new members ere elected. A vote of thanks to the officers for their services during the past ar, was moved, and new ones were elected for the ensuing year as follows :— r. T. C. Lampart President, Mr. Aaron Binger first Vice-President, r. D. G. Scott re-elected second Vice-President. Mr. J. B. Heywood e retiring Secretary and Mr. Ed. Howe, the retiring Treasurer were so unanimously re-elected. Mr. Alex. Scott was elected Assistant Secretary. e Managing Committee of the Society are the Officers Messrs. Adriel Robotham, H. Crosfield, Franklin Smith, Frederick Hewitt, Edward Grant and Mrs. arlotte Smith. The subject of the Penny Bank was discussed. The matter of May Pen Grain Show was fully explained by the Instructor. Members were ed to give the matter careful attention and see that Upper Clarendon was ll represented. The matter of the fallen timber trees in Crown lands was ly discussed and a resolution passed re the Society's dissatisfaction with the clusions arrived at on the subject. Mr. Adreil Robotham read a selection m the JOURNAL. This idea is a highly commendable one and will be pursued the Society. At the next meeting Mr. Alex. Scott will read a selected passe from the June 1916 JOURNAL. The holiday competition will be dealt with he next meeting. The Instructor again called special attention to the spread cocoa canker and he dwelt on the fact that if care is not taken now to eradi- e it from the soil our thriving cocoa fields will be totally destroyed. The In- ctor received a vote of thanks for his past services and the meeting came to a e.

J. B. HEYWOOD, Secretary,

SMITHVILLE (Clarendon.)—The annual meeting of this Branch was held on 11th May, 1917. There were present the President. Instructor, Secretary 11 members. The Authorized Persons gave their reports. A resolution to effect that no Authorized Person should absent himself from three consecutive tings of the Society unless prevented by illness was unanimously agreed to. question of Praedial Larceny came in for a lengthy discussion. The Secretary read his Annual report. Special mention was made of the timely help given he Instructor in distributing corn and peas to the members and others ; and e help given by the Secretary of the Parent Society by way of distributing table seeds. The Instructor was absent from *only one* of the Meetings during ear and he gave able lectures and demonstration in pruning of coffee and in school garden. After the President's report he vacated the chair and Schleifer was asked to preside at the election which resulted as follows :— W. A. Bryan re-elected President. Mr. F. McLymont re-elected 1st Vice dent, Mr. A. Russell elected 2nd Vice President, Mr. W. S. Reid re-elected surer and Mr. J. A. Edwards re-elected Secretary. A resolution asking the esentative of the Parish to support the recommendation of Mr. U. T. McKay Justice of the Peace for Upper Clarendon was passed. The meeting then nated.

J. A. EDWARDS, Secretary.

ROSPECT (Clarendon.)—The monthly meeting of this branch was held in the l Room here on May 14th 1917. All the Officers were present, and also nstructor twelve members and two ladies. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. One new member was elected. Mr. Harper Tulloch in an enthusiastic manner encouraging the members to keep up their in- in the Society and so encourage others to become members too. After a f thanks to the retiring officers, the election of new ones for the current ook place and resulted as follows:—Rev. E. A. Bell. President Mr [illegible] Vice President [illegible]

pointed officers and Messrs. H. Tulloch, J. Cuthbert, D. Wellington, N. Henry, J. Nelson, J. Thomas, members were invited to hand in their subscription and ten did so at the meeting and the rest promised to send theirs in during the course of the week. Reports of Authorised Persons were next submitted and the subject of Praedial Larceny in the district discussed at length. The Instructor then gave a stirring address on the cultivation of crops. He next set forth the aims of the coming May Pen Grain Show and encouraged every body to compete. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the Instructor. At next meeting the Instructor will give a lecture on mulching and manuring. Meeting adjourned to 11th June 1917 with the Singing of the National Anthem. F. R. RICKETTS, Secretary.

GLENGOFFE (St. Catherine).—The regular meeting of this Branch was held in the Grateful Hill school on 1st May. In the absence of the President and Vice-President Mr. A. I. Martin was asked to take the Chair. The minutes were read and confirmed. A circular was read from Spaldings Branch inviting the co-operation of the Society to make it easier to convict gamblers. It was resolved to support the Resolution and ask that not only gamblers but all vagrants be dealt with more regularly. Correspondence was read and dealt with from Mr. Barclay. The question of a show again came up for discussion, but it was left to the Managing Committee. The Society discussed the Prædial Larceny question and it was decided to recommend to the Government the establishment of Penal Settlement at Mona and if needs be other parts of the island. Mr. Hanson addressed the meeting and the meeting adjourned with the singing of the National Anthem. THOS. E. FOOTE, Hon. Secretary.

UPPER ST. JOHN'S (St. Catherine).—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held on 8th May. There were present : President, Vice-President, Secretary, 22 members and some visitors. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read and dealt with. Next followed a long discussion on Prædial Larceny. Mention was made of the pressing need of a J.P. for the distrcict of Point Hill. The members are taking steps to secure this. The Instructors spoke on Sugar Factories and the Food Question. A Committee with the President as Chairman was appointed to meet at 4 o'clock on Friday to further consider the question of Prædial Larceny. A few other minor matters were dealt with. A donation of half a guinea was voted to the Secretary. Five new members were enrolled. Subscriptions paid and the meeting terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

E. THOS. HAMILTON, Secretary.

LABYRINTH (St. Mary.)—On 1st May the monthly meeting was held in the school room when 30 members and 4 visitors were present. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Matters arising out of these were discussed. The making of the shed for the corn mill was discussed. Three members promised to give shingles. The election of officers came next and resulted as follows. Mr. Saml. Hyatt, President, Messrs. Ransel Moncriffe and Alexr Moncriffe first and second Vice Presidents respectively, Mr. Gohagen, Secretary and Treasurer and Mr. Ransel Moncriffe Reporting Secretary. At this stage correspondence was read and dealt with. The planting of food stuff was next discussed. The members gave information of their increased planting. Already a goodly amount of potatoes, peas and corn has been planted. The pumpkin seeds which were given to the branch have been planted and in some cases very large returns have been received. Mr. Cornelius Ellis, a member said: He harvested a pumpkin of which the circumference was 3 ft. 10½ inches, and the diameter 1 ft. 5½ inches. Mr. Gohagen also reaped from his school garden a turnip weighing 5½ lbs. At this stage a lengthy discussion followed *re* Praedial Larceny. All the members took a lively interest in the subject. Many useful suggestions were given. The discussion was not concluded and is deferred for next meeting on the 5th prox. With a few minor matters the meeting terminated with the singing of the National Anthem. R. ALPHONSO GOHAGEN, Secretary.

BROADGATE (St. Mary.)—The Annual General Meeting of this Branch was held in the Schoolroom, May 2nd. The election of officers to serve for year 1917-1918 took place and resulted in the re-election of the officers for the previous year. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The President spoke on the subject of Praedial Larceny. Correspondence was read and dealt with. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary of the Parent Society *re* Renta Yams. Mr. Daniel Simmon was recommended to be an Authorised

person of the Branch. The Secretary was instructed to send an application on his behalf. The meeting was brought to a close with the singing of the National Anthem.

R. A. CRANSTON, Secretary.

ALBANY (St. Mary.)—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held in the Friendship Church on the 2nd May. There were present the President, Hon. R. P. Simmonds, Mr. Cradwick, Mr. I. L. Saunders and 30 other members. The Secretary presented his report on the year's work. A discussion arose about titles. The Chairman said the lawyer's fee was high but could hardly be reduced as it entailed much work. The Instructor said that co-operation is the only cure. Re J. P. it was advised that the matter be taken up at once as the service of a J. P. is badly needed in the district. Correspondence was read and dealt with. The election of members took place. President Hon. R. P. Simmonds, Vice President Rev. W. D. Henderson, Mr. L. S. Clarke, Mr. I. L Saunders, Mr. H. W Stewart, Secretary Mr. R. S. Young, Asst. Secretary, Mr. J L. Saunders. Mr. Simmonds next spoke on the Praedial Larceny evil. Mr. Stewart spoke about the scarcity of Agricultural implinnents and asked that the Society do something to help the members. It was suggested that old spring blades be utilised. The six authorised persons present, presented their reports. Messrs. Joseph Smart and Edwin Downs were proposed as Authorised persons.

R. S. YOUNG, Secretary.

ALBION MTNS. (St. Mary).—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held in the School premises on 3rd May, 1917 There were in attendance the Instructor, twelve members and three visitors. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Instructor reported that the Board of Management had commented very favourably on the slices of dried potatoes sent in by two members of this Branch. The Secretary's Report for 1916-17 was next presented and adopted. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Secretary. All were very glad for the £30 special Grant that was given by the Parochial Board on Road No. 22. It was agreed that a copy of the report be sent to the Hon. R. P. Simmonds. Correspondence was read and dealt with. Two new members were elected. We were advised as a branch to see Mr. Simmonds about the curing of our cocoa and its sale. The President asked the Instructor if there was any advantage to be gained by saving Spanish Needle in the field, the latter said none that he knew of, but the planting of Over-look Beans and all other beans was advantageous because of the nitrogen that it draws from the air which is very good for all plants. One Authorized Person presented his report.

T. A. GRAY, Seretary.

CLIFTON-NEWSTEAD (St. Mary.)—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held on May 7th, 1917. Present: The President, Mr. Leslie Mais; the Instructor, W. Cradwick, Esq.; Vice Presidents, Secretary and 20 members. The minutes of the last meeting were presented and confirmed, and matters arising out of them dealt with. Mr. Alexander Pink was appointed an Authorised Person for the Mile End District. It was decided that members in arrears be struck off the list of members. Letter from Adam Roxburgh, Esq., *re* subscription for procuring souvenir of Mr. Levy. of the St. Ann's Parochial Board in recognition of his invaluable services, was presented by the President. It was decided that the Society subscribe 5/- out of its funds, this to be aided by individual subscriptions, from members which would be decided on at the next meeting. The Instructor demonstrated as follows:—(1) How to gather cocoa pods. (2) Showed photographs illustrating damage to pods done by rats and woodpecker. (3) Cooper's Dip to get rid of ticks on cattle. (4) Foodstuffs—showed samples of dried sliced sweet potatoes can be kept for 10 years. Members to try the experiment. Society decides to buy a cornmill, cost £5—50 shares at 2/- each. 35 shares were recorded at the meeting. Meeting terminated with National Anthem. D. A. JONES, Secretary.

UPPER METCALFE (St. Mary.)—The monthly meeting of this Branch was held in Brainerd Schoolroom on the 10th inst There was quite a large turnout of members and visitors. Mr. Cradwick, Agricultural Instructor, was present. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was dealt with. The members present agreed to put the Secretary in a position to send in the new list of members before next meeting. The Authorized Persons present promised to do their best and report regularly to the Branch. The names of the following members were put forward for appointment as Authorized Persons:—Hubert Lamard, Thomas Williams, Laban Hyde, Solomon Taylor William Taylor, Benjamin Bonner and Hezekiah Rainford. The meeting was unani-

nous that the names be submitted for appointment. The resolution from Spalding Branch Society received the hearty support of the meeting, save that the latter part respecting *conviction by three of four witnesses be omitted from the resolution.* Mr. Cradwick spoke on the food question and impressed on members the necessity for planting more ground provision especially potatoes which would escape the ravages of storms. He then showed a sample of sweet potato chips. He said it is probable that potato chips will be exported to England. He also explained the simple method of curing the chips and asked the members present to bring samples of their own curing to next meeting. The praedial larceny question was next discussed at length. A photograph of two bored cocoa pods was shown round—one supposed to have been bored by rats and the other by birds. Members were asked to secure any such pods and bring to next meeting. The Secretary presented a claim from Authorized Person Zechariah Mendes with a letter from Mr. Hylton certifying that he had lost two days in trying to work up a case. The Chairman and Secretary were asked to take the necessary steps to secure payment to Mr. Mendes. The meeting was unanimous that Authorized Persons should be better paid. Meeting adjourned after the singing of the National Anthem. W. T. EDWARDS, Secretary.

LUCKY HILL (St. Mary.)—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held in the Goshen Schoolroom on the 16th May. H. Jefferson, Esq., President, in the Chair. There was a large attendance of members. Three new members were elected. Minutes were read and confirmed. The Secretary presented the report of the Committee appointed at the last meeting to confer with the Authorized Persons of the Branch, and the matter of their pay was fully discussed. The subject of praedial larceny was warmly and lengthily discussed. A committee was appointed to go into these causes and remedies with a view to making proper representations on this very important matter to the Hon. R. P. Simmonds, M.L.C., at a public meeting to be held at Gayle on the 5th June. Messrs. A. B. Greenland and J. E. Greenland were nominated as Authorized Persons for Gayle. A very fine sample of sweet potato chips prepared by A. G. Silvera, Esq., was shewn by the Instructor. Much is being done in these districts *re* the planting of foodstuffs, and the seasons up *to the present have been fine.* W. B. CUMMINGS, *Secretary.*

BENBOW (St. Mary.)—On the 18th May, the regular monthly meeting was held with 20 members and the Instructor present. The usual formalities were gone through. Arising out of the minutes, the oft discussed question of investing the Society's money was brought up, and discussion on it deferred till next meeting. The report of the delegates to the Windsor Castle-Guy's Hill Loan Bank was favourably accepted, and our members promised to take up shares in said bank. It was decided:—(a) That a reminder be sent to members who have not yet renewed their membership. (b) That this Society feels depressed over the wholesale destruction of our crops—particularly potatoes, by rats. (c) That the Parent Society be asked to get us the services of the Government Entomoloigist to solve some knotty problems *re* crops in this locality. (d) That this Society buy ½ gross of Benjamin's rat poison *for sale to members particularly. (3) That we find out the price at which seed corn may be procured from the Parent Society for August planting.* The *Instructor* then addressed the meeting *re* sweet potatoes and praedial larceny. He was accorded a vote of thanks. The meeting then closed with the singing of the National *Anthem.*

H. GUNNING BOOTHE, Secretary.

RICHMOND (St. Mary.)—The annual meeting of this Branch came off in the Richmond Road Schoolroom on the 23rd May. There were present, the Instructor, President, and twenty-three other members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read and dealt with. Then followed the election of officers, resulting in the re-election of the President and Treasurer, and the election of Messrs. W. R Thomas and C. Lyons, as 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents. Authorized Persons then presented their quarterly reports. The Instructor next gave a very important lecture on dried sweet potato chips, and also showed some samples There was a lengthy discussion, with regard to Praedial Larceny. Three new members were elected and two new Authorized Persons. Eight membrrs paid up their *yearly subscriptions. The date of the next meeting was fixed for the 27th prox.* The singing of the National Anthem brought the interesting meeting to a close.

W. M. HARRISON, Secretary.

DEESIDE (Trelawny.)—The annual general meeting of this Branch was held in the Hastings Schoolroom on the 2nd May, 1917. There were present:—12 members, the Asst. Agricultural Instructor for the district, the Secretary and a number of

of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read and discussed Three new members were elected. The keeper of the Society's ram reported tha the animal is in good condition and fit for service. The members expressed satisfac tion with the progeny. The Authorised Persons submitted their reports. Th Irish potato competition was a pleasing feature of the meeting. The first prize wa taken by the Secretary who grew the potatoes in the School Garden and the seconc by Mr. S. Johnson, a member of the Branch. The annual report was read by th Secretary and adopted. The officers for the past year were thanked for their servic and the election for the ensuing year was proceeded with. Other matters of mino agricultural importance were dealt with and a very profitable meeting was brough to a close with the singing of the National Anthem.

R. R. McBAYNE, Secretary.

BUNKER'S HILL (Trelawny.)—The monthly regular meeting of this Branch was held in the Unity Schoolroom on 3rd May. There were present, the President C. J. F. Robertson, Esq. (in the Chair): Messrs. Arnett and Rennie, Agricultura Instructors, the Secretary, 18 other members, and 10 visitors. Minutes were reac and confirmed. This being the annual meeting the Secretaryepresented his report which was concise but comprehensive and showed that the Society had made steady progress. The report was adopted and the Secretary heartily thanked. The retiring officers were all thanked for their services and Mr. Arnett occupied the Chair during the election. President, Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected. Messrs. C. Fox and Wm. Lowe were elected Vice Presidents. The new officers thanked the Society for its confidence in them and promised to do their best to uphold its good. Correspondence was then read, upon which Mr. Arnett briefly pointed out the benefits derived from being a member of the J. A. Society, and advised members to qualify in time. Messrs. Rennie, Fox and Arnett each addressed the meeting. Very valuable suggestions were given. At the roll call, 8 new members were enrolled anc 14 paid in their subscriptions. The grindstone keeper also handed in 4/2 The Secretary was asked to purchase seeds for the Society. Meeting closed with the National Anthem.

J. E. GALE, Secretary.

UPPER TRELAWNY.—This Branch held its seventeenth Annual Meeting on 11th May at Albert Town. There was a good attendance including Messrs. A. A. Palmer, President; F. A. Myers, Secretary; D. R. Wright, R. R. Linton, E. Arnett, Instructor. Several matters of local importance were dealt with, and the following officers were appointed for the year 1917-1918:—Messrs. A. A. Palmer, President, unanimously re-elected; D. R. Wright and R. R. Linton, V.P's.; Fred. A. Myers, Secretary, unanimously re-elected; C. Anderson, Asst. Secretary. The Secretary presented his report for the year ending March 31st, 1917, and the meeting terminated.

FRED A. MYERS, Secretary.

PORUS (Manchester.)—The annual meeting which had been postponed owing to rain was eventually held on the 7th May. There were present: S. A. Hendricks, Esq., J.P., presiding; the Agricultural Instructor for the district; the Secretary, fifteen other members and some visitors. Matters arising out of the minutes were dealt with. Some fine specimens of garden egg (weighing about five lbs. each) and a fine cabbage were exhibited to the meeting by the President, as an illustration of what could be done in the line of vegetables, by members, to help themselves. A report of the working of the Society for the year ended 31st March, 1917, was submitted and adopted by the Secretary. Votes of thanks to the various officers were passed. The election of members for the current year followed and resulted as follows:—President: S. A. Hendricks, Esq., re-elected; 1st Vice-President W. A. Morgan, Esq.; 2nd Vice-President, Rev. J. N. Somerville; 3rd Vice-President Rev. J. M. Walters; 4th Vice-President, Hon. and Rev. W. B. Esson; Secretary, C. Rowland; Treasurer, S. A. Hendricks. A resolution *re* the purchase of properties by the Government for sale again in small lots to settlers, thus offering inducement against emigration, was heatedly discussed and at last unanimously passed.

C. ROWLAND, Secretary.

BROADLEAF (Manchester.)—Meeting held in Schoolroom on Monday, 7th May 1917. Twenty-two members, including officers were present. It was a regret that the Instructor could not be present. Minutes read and confirmed Letters were read from the General Secretary on affiliation, etc. Discussion followed on praedial larceny. The planting of "Barbados" yam came in for much consideration. The Westmoreland and Hanover method of planting was set forth. Wm. Graham became a member. The National Anthem brought the meeting to a close.

S. W[illegible], Secretary.

CRAIGHEAD (Manchester.)—The usual monthly meeting of this Branch was ıeld on the 8th May. The attendance was not up to what was expected, but the neeting was interesting. The question brought up by the Chairman was: "What night be done by the Society to create and secure the interest of its members." A lively discussion followed but nothing definite was arrived at. The question will be discussed again. The election of officers for the current year took place .nd resulted in their re-election. Subscriptions were rece ved for the current year .nd the meeting was brought to a close E. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

FAIRFIELD (Manchester.)—A meeting of this Branch was held on Thursday, May 17th. Present: Mr. Thos. Powell, Instructor; Rt. Rev. Bishop Westphal, President; 14 members and 4 visitors, one of whom afterwards became a member. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Treasurer next gave . report of the finances of the Society. There was a lengthy discussion on the subject of praedial larceny, which culminated in a resolution *re* the necessity of certa n stern neasures being adopted by the Government being passed. The Instructor next .ddressed the members on the serious situation *re* the food supply of the island at present, and urged upon this Society the great need for greater activity in the planting of sweet potatoes and any similar food crops. The Instructor was assured that he community was alive to the urgency of putting forth greater efforts in this direction. The date of the next meeting was fixed for the 21st of June, when the subject of Authorized Persons will come before the Society. There will also be a discussion on the growing of sweet potatoes, and the subject will be opened by a paper to be ead by the Secretary. The meeting then adjourned. H. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

PEDRO (St.-Ann.)—The meeting of this Branch was held on the 7th May, 1917, n Waltham Schoolroom. Mr. William Flash, a Vice-President, occupied the Chair. 5 members, a large number of visitors and Mr. Arnett, Instructor, present. Mr. W. J. Francis, the Branch Secretary, read a resolution *re* Gambling from the Spaldings Branch. The meeting was in sympathy with the principle of this resolution. The Authorized Persons presented their reports. Praedial larceny was considered not n the increase in Bensonton District. Mr. Arnett spoke on a diversity of important ubjects, e.g., necessity for planting and storing, how to manufacture meals from Banana, Cassava and Potato. He insisted on carefulness Journal Reading was postponed. Agenda of interest fixed for Annual Meeting in June. National Anthem nd Doxology were sung and meeting terminated. MILFORD A. HARVEY, Secretary.

HIATTSFIELD (St. Ann.)—A very specially interesting meeting of this Branch was held on 14th May. Mr. Arnett dealt with the following subjects: (1) The hortage of food at the present time. He urged the importance of the production .nd storage of food stuffs. (2) Praedial Larceny. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Arnett for his very practical address. A sample of Potato meal was xhibited by Mr. J. Cox. The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem. MISS. E. E. SWABY, Secretary.

FAIRY HILL (Portland.)—The monthly meeting of this Branch was held on he 8th May. Ten persons were present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. No meeting was held in April owing to rains. There was . discussion as to whether evening meetings would not be more successful than norning ones, and it was at last decided that the Instructor would attend night neetings if he got lodging here, he would then visit holdings early next morning. The discussion *re* the effect of moon-light upon planting, etc., was postponed for next meeting. The subject of Authorized Persons' powers was discussed and the natter referred to the General Secretary. Correspondence from him *re* fallen lumber rees was read and discussed. The Secretary was then instructed to write supporting he proposal of the Board of Management of the Parent Society. The Instructor urged on members to take full advantage of the concessions to shippers of ground provision. Mr. C. L. Shirley spoke encouragingly on the prospect of prices of yams nd other foodstuffs. Mr. Cato also spoke in support and asked members not to ell their yam-heads, but plant them Eleven members paid their subscription. The meeting then adjourned. FRANK HARRISON, Secretary.

SWIFT RIVER -(Portland.)—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held on 10th May, at Mt. Olivet, being really in place of the April meeting, which was washed out by rain. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. There were present, 24 members and a few visitors. Arising out of minutes *re* pruning tools, money was handed over by President to Mr. E. A. Gunter to procure them. Re-

and recommending others. *Re* yam heads: This was again deferred to next meeting. Two new members were then elected. The election of officers for the current year resulted as follows:—Mr. W. W. Falloon re-elected President; Vice-Presidents; 1st, Mr. P. L. Ergas, 2nd, Mr. J. A. Thomas; Mr. D. N. Parker, Secretary, with Mr. L. Powell as assistant; Mr. Alf. A. Bowyer, Treasurer. It was pointed out to others the necessity for trying to meet their obligations in time to have their names sent up to the Parent Society, and have Branch affiliated for the year. According to accounts the total subscription received last year was 58/-.; all expended with the difference of a sixpence. The National Anthem brought meeting to a close.

D. N. PARKER, Secretary.

BYBROOK (Portland.)—The monthly meeting of this Branch was held at the usual place on the 10th May, 1917. There were present: Messrs. E. A. Gunter, Asst. Instructor; A. E. Gutzmore, President; R. A. Burgess, Secretary; H. E. Carby, Asst. Secretary; J. H. Sutherland, V.P.; R. M. Burgess, Treasurer, and 16 other members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read and dealt with. Mr. Cousins read extract from the *Gleaner re* food commission. Correspondence was read and discussed. The following subjects were discussed:—The recent Railway concessions, the necessity for planting more foodstuffs, the number of idle young men who spend all their time gambling, praedial larceny, resolutions from the Duncans Branch and the Public Meeting in Port Maria, with both of which this Branch is in full accord; better treatment of country people who sell in the Jubilee Market. Mr. Gunter notified the members that there was a Zebu Jersey bull at Mr. Langford's pen for the use of the surrounding branches. and would be fit for service about February next. The National Anthem was sung and the meeting came to a close.

R. A. BURGESS, Secretary.

BIRNAMWOOD (Portland.)—The annual meeting of this Branch was held in the Schoolroom on 12th May, 1917. There were present: Mr. E. A. Gunter, Asst. Instructor; the Secretary, and fourteen members. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of last meeting, matters arising out of same, were dealt with. Four Authorized Persons, who were present, presented their reports. The Secretary was instructed to write and ask about handcuffs for those Authorized Persons who are without them. Correspondence was read and dealt with. Three new members were elected. The election of officers to serve for the current year next took place, and resulted as follows:—The Rev. R. L. Reid, President; Messrs. R. Paulwell and O. M. Maloney, first and second Vice-Presidents; Asst. Secretary, Mr. O. M. Maloney; Managing Committee: Messrs. D. Pruville, Wm. Savage, I. Chevannes, C. Chevannes, James Laffith, Christopher Ormsby, Wm. Rowe and Jas. Drysdale. Mr. Gunter then addressed the meeting, impressing on the members the necessity for planting much and not encouraging loafers and idlers who are the greatest thieves. The National Anthem brought the meeting to a close. O. M. MALONEY, Secretary.

APPLETON (St. Elizabeth.)—The annual meeting of this Branch was held in the Siloah Schoolroom on 11th May. There were present: Mr. Robt. Turner, President; Mr. J. A. L. Causwell, Secretary; 6 other members and the Instructor. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary presented his report for the year. It showed an increase in membership. The Treasurer's statement showed a balance to the credit of the Bracnch. The following are the officers elected for the urrent year: Rev. J. W. Graham, President; Mr. M. J. Chambers, 1st Vice-Presi-nt; E. S. Falden, Esq., 2nd Vice-President; Mr. J. A. L. Causwell, Secretary; Mr. N. A. Brown, Reporting Secretary; Managing Committee: Messrs. Jas. Black, Geo. Foster, Robt. Turner, J. V. Graham, C. Robinson, Rev. J. Black. Three new members were elected. A lengthy discussion on praedial larceny followed. The Instructor gave valuable hints on the planting of sweet potatoes, St. Vincent and Renta yams. It was agreed to that meetings be kept on the second Friday of each month, instead of bi-monthly. The Instructor promised to give a demonstration on the making of Farine on the 13th of July. The meeting then adjourned.

N. A. BROWN, Secretary.

ARCADIA (St. Thomas.)—The first regular meeting of the Arcadia Agricultural Branch for the year 1917-18 was held at the Arcadia Government School on May 14, 1917, commencing at 5 o'clock p.m. There were present: Messrs. Walter McIntosh, in the Chair, Saml. A. Vassall, Secretary; M. E. Grey, Treasurer; Mrs. M. A. Grey, Asst. Secretary; 10 members and L. A. Wates, Esq., I[illegible] The minutes of last meeting held April 16, 1917 were read and confirm

arising therefrom dealt with. The Secretary reported the qualifying up to that date of 27 members, that is those who have paid up their subscription for the year April 1, 1917, to 31st March, 1918 .A long received resolution from the Spaldings Branch was read and explained, and discussed, and it was unanimously adopted with the hope that the Spaldings Branch be willing to add a qualifying clause. The lecture on Cocoa was continued. A very forcible appeal was again made to the members to plant extensively. Meeting was brought to a close with the singing of the National Anthem. SAML. A. VASSALL, Secretary.

LAMB'S RIVER (Westmoreland.)—At a meeting of this Branch held on 18th May, there were 21 members present. A resolution from the Spaldings Branch *re* Gambling was read and discussed. This Branch is in sympathy with the resolution, and hopes that the Parent Society may be able to bring pressure to bear on the Government to remedy this growing evil in Jamaica. The following subjects were discussed:—Praedial larceny, Authorized Persons, and white ants' attack on yams. Mr. Briscoe lectured on sweet potatoes, and urged the importance of cultivating this crop especially, as at this time, when the food problem is of so much concern. It was decided to ask the Westmoreland Parochial Board to give a grant so as to erect a foot bridge over a stream in connection with Lane No. 2 in the Coffee Ground District. It was proposed that this Branch offer substantial prizes to its members for Fall Crop Corn cultivation this year. Arrangements *re* prizes and area of cultivation to be fixed at next meeting of the Branch. The Cottage Holdings' Competition as offered by this Branch will also be dealt with at next meeting. Four new members were elected. Meeting adjourned until 3rd August.

U. L. BROWN, Secretary.

SHERWOOD FOREST (Portland.)—On May 29th, meeting held in School room. Present, L. A. Wates, Esq. (Instructor); E. V. Deans, Esq. (Chairman); A. W. Van Horn (Secretary); and about 40 members and visitors. After reading of minutes, Chairman gave a warm and hearty welcome to the Instructor. The Instructor gave a very instructive and interesting lecture dealing on (a) the value of co-operation among members of a community in the achievement of success. He instanced many cases in which nothing but wise co-operation would result in success., e.g., corn meal industry. By co-operation a mill may be procured, and a payable concern would be the result. He urged the people to cultivate such crops, as cocoa, coffee, ginger, and annatto—products which demand a ready sale in the local markets, instead of sitting and waiting for the banana tide. Local industries and trade must be developed and these are only achieved by planting and by judicious co-operation. He showed the necessity and great value of sharp tools, and he encouraged the Branch to buy a grindstone. He gave very valuable hints on Bud Rot, Leaf Bitten, and Die Back diseases of coconuts. A vote of thanks was moved by Secretary, seconded by the Chairman. Mr. Anderson moved that a Corn-growing Competition be made among the members. The move was generally supported. The Instructor gave some useful hints on the scheme, and promised to give a prize on the best result. Messrs. Deans and others gladly gave free lands for the competition. A committee was appointed to meet and discuss the working of the scheme. Vernon Harris, Authorized Person, reported one arrest, Joseph Lewis, stole yams, 31 days hard labour. Instructor asked that each member be prepared to tell him at the next meeting "*What time of the year is best to plant the different crops that they cultivate?*" The object of Registration under the Military Act of Jamaica was well explained to all who were present. Meeting adjourned with National Anthem.

A. W. VAN HORN, Secretary.

GUY'S HILL BRANCH.—The annual meeting of the Guy's Hill Branch Agricultural Society was held at St. George's Schoolroom on Thursday, 17th May, Mr. Chas. Irvine, presiding. There were present eighteen members besides the Secretary and W. Cradwick, Esq., Instructor. The election of officers resulted in the re-election of all the officers. A circular letter from the Spaldings Branch *re* Amendment of the Vagrancy Law (Law 12 of 1902) was put before the meeting. Opinions were freely expressed. The Secretary was instructed to write the Spaldings Branch and to say this Branch accepts the resolution in its spirit and aim, but begs to offer a suggestion, that is, that the last clause regarding the evidence of three or four witnesses be left out. Reports were given by Authorized Persons Josiah Anderson and Augustus Anderson. The Secretary presented his report for the year. The finanial condition of the Society was reported healthy. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Secretary for his past services. The Instructor called the attention of the meeting to a number of suggestions dealing with praedial larceny made by the Citizens' Association at Gayle, to be put before the Hon. Simmonds, member of the Legislative Council for the

Parish of St. Mary, at a meeting to be held at Gayle on the 5th of June. The members were all invited to that meeting and after some discussion, led by the Instructor on this burning question—praedial larceny, it was decided to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, 22nd to prepare some definite proposals for the meeting at Gayle. To this all the interested in cultivation were to be invited. Mr. Cradwick showed some dried sweet potato "chips," which puzzled those to whom they were shown to discover what they were. All agreed that the preparation should be most useful as a food product. The Instructor strongly advised more extensive cultivation of this quick and easy crop. W. E. WATSON, Secretary.

Notes from the following Branches have also been received, but have not been published, primarily from lack of space, but also, in the case of no less than 8 which might otherwise have been published, because they were sent in a month or 6 weeks after the date of the meeting and are, therefore, quite out of date:—Claremont, Keith (St. Ann); Nonsuch, Reach, Cooper's Hill, Belvedere (Portland); Far Enough, Frankfield, Mocho and Brixton Hill (Clarendon); St. Mary Central, Jackson, Mahoe Hill, Marlborough, Mt. Regale, Preston (St. Mary); Christiana, Mile Gully (Manchester); Mt. Charles Bloxburgh, Mt. James, Brandon Hill (St. Andrew); St. David's, Lower, Bath, Pear Tree River, Thornton (St. Thomas); Friendship, Darliston (Westmoreland); Somerton, Cambridge (St. James); Duan Vale, Waldensia (Trelawny).

INSTRUCTORS.

Mr. E. Arnett, who was next to Mr. W. Cradwick as Senior Agricultural Instructor, has resigned his position with this Society as at 30th June. The Instructors Committee have written him the following letter of appreciation of his services:—

June 11th, 1917.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 15th ult., tendering your resignation as an Agricultural Instructor under this Society, was duly submitted to its Instructors Committee, and I am requested to express to you the great regret of the Committee, that for reasons of health, you have found it necessary to take this step.

I am further desired to express to you the Committee's appreciation of the highly efficient manner in which you have continued, during the long period of 13 years, to carry out your very arduous duties, so conscientiously and so loyally, to the Society, and to the public of your district.

I am also to add the good wishes of the members of the Committee, for your success in whatever sphere the future holds for you.

The Committee willingly agrees at your request, to dispense with the stipulated notice of three months, to accept your resignation as at 30th inst., and to grant you the leave you ask for from the 18th inst

I am, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) JNO. BARCLAY,
Secretary.

It is hardly possible in the present advanced stage of our work—advanced in comparison with what it used to be—to get a man with the necessary knowledge experience, judgment and tact who will be able and willing to take up this work, as it stands, so the Instructors Committee have decided to appoint two young Assistant Instructors to be trained under Mr. Cradwick, the Instructor for St. Mary, who will also supervise the work in St. Ann. The Assistant Instructor, Mr. Rennie, who at present, takes Lower Trelawny and Eastern St. James, will also take Upper Trelawny in addition, and Mr. Gunter, who is the Assistant Instructor in West Portland, will take Eastern St. Mary also, both of these Assistants being promoted to the position of second-class Instructors.

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